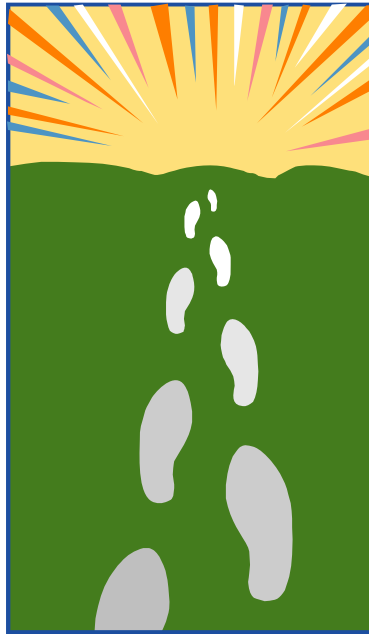


FIRST CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH Annual Report 2009



Footprints for Christ

Evangelism & Fellowship
1 Corinthians 12: 12-13

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FOOTPRINTS FOR CHRIST-2009

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

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FIRST CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORTS

Senior Pastor

Donald Ng

Footprints for Christ

We all wonder at times if anyone would miss us. If we stayed home on a Sunday morning, would anyone miss us at church? As a pastor, I wonder if anyone would show up when we open up the church front doors for worship on Sundays.

As the hands and feet of Christ in the world, we are the Body of Christ. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, “For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were made to drink of one Spirit.” As the Body of Christ, we show up physically in the world and take up the space around us. Some would say that we breathe up all the oxygen. When the Body of Christ and all of its many members are actively at work in the world, we undoubtedly leave footprints in the name of Christ Jesus. When we leave footprints for Christ, the world knows that we showed up. You won’t be able to miss us!

We left many footprints for Christ in 2009!

Fellowship Footprints

In everything that we did, we practiced Christian fellowship. On April 25th, the All-Church “Live in Harmony” music event drew many together for a second year. Many individuals and groups shared their musical gifts from our variety of traditions to celebrate our unity as one body in Christ. We can easily see how blessed we are when we are living examples of how all members of God’s people are living in harmony. On August 23rd, the entire church family joined together for another Annual Church Outdoor Worship and Picnic in Sunnyvale. Over delicious and bountiful food prepared by our church friends, we met and became more acquainted with one another that are more possible in such casual settings. When we are in Christian fellowship with each other is when we begin to see the Body of Christ leaving real footprints behind that really count.

Mission Footprints

As ones who have been tremendously blessed by missions since 1880, we have the capabilities to engage in mission today. For over 3 years, the Lanna Coffee Project continues to import coffee from northern Thailand that invest in village economic development to discourage girls and young women from working as domestics in cities running the risk of human trafficking. Every bag of coffee that we sell provides income for the village farmers. But we know that prostitution is a very serious problem in Thailand. There are women who need shelter and job training. There are HIV-infected children and others with AIDS who need a residence to stay in order to complete their education. Every bag of coffee we sell donates 50 cents to the New Life Center and 50 cents to the House of Love. From this unique mission project, we are making a difference in the lives of people in northern Thailand and in turn, we have become more aware of the kind of footprint that we can leave for missions.

Sponsored by the Missions Committee, we had our very first One-Day Missions Conference on Oct. 11th with American Baptist Missionary Rev. Lauran Bethell sharing from the pulpit about how we can be involved in places around the world through the hands and feet of our commissioned missionaries. At the Missions Faire, there were many displays of the different ways that our church has been involved in mission.

One of the highlights of 2009 was the commissioning of 6 church members who participated in a 2-week long mission project in northern Thailand. They joined a team sponsored by ABC International Ministries to bring fresh water from the hilltops to the villages. This was very physical. They led singing, playing games; they shared about their Christian stories with all those whom they

met. Not only did they leave real footprints on the hills of the hill tribes in northern Thailand but they came home with life-long footprints imprinted in their hearts to testify on the importance of doing missions first-hand.

Unshaken Footprints

When we read our Sunday San Francisco Chronicle on April 6th, we were all surprised to see that Cityscape columnist, John King, featured our church building. For the sake of remembering our past, the article talked about the clinker bricks that grace our walls: ***‘Clinker bricks’—and a craggy treat. Amid Chinatown's theatrical pagodas stands a robust surprise: the First Chinese Baptist Church. With roots on the site dating to 1880, the congregation steered clear of Asiatic flourishes when it rebuilt after the 1906 earthquake, instead constructing a plain fortress of brick. If the walls were straightforward and smooth, the result would be as dull as a too-long sermon. No chance. Instead, they're studded with "clinker bricks" - gnarled chunks of masonry that give the structure a medieval air, creating an earthy counterpart to the colorful show elsewhere in the neighborhood. First Chinese Baptist Church 15 Waverly Place | Architect: G.E. Burlingame | Style: Post-earthquake | Size: 3 stories | Date built: 1908*** Cityscape is a weekly look at a building or place that makes San Francisco distinct. To see the actual article and view the pictures, go to our own church website and click onto the SF Chronicle link.

The year 2009 will be remembered more for its economic troubles than any good news. But every time I see our church building, I am reminded about how even in the tragedy of the 1906 San Francisco Fire and Earthquake that our church continued to be a witness in the world. The clinker bricks that we often take for granted are constantly reminding us that we may all be shook up for a moment but even from such travesty, there is rebirth and hope. Columnist John King may have noticed how interesting our building may look in comparison with all the other pagoda-roofed buildings in Chinatown. But when we see these clinker bricks, we see that in God, nothing will shake us away from leaving more footprints all over Chinatown in the name of Jesus Christ!

Staff Footprints

The Church Staff is deeply appreciative of your confidence and support of them to do ministry at FCBC. Your prayers and trust in them have produced effective and faithful ministries. Together as the one Body of Christ, all of us have served as the hands and feet of Christ in 2009. At the beginning of the year, Pastor Peter Lee began his ministry with us as the Pastor of Chinese-speaking Ministries with his official installation service on March 1st. In recognition of our Community Outreach staff Jane Lam's call to ministry, we granted her a license to preach on April 26th. In the fall, Pastor Chris Otani went on a much-deserved 3-month sabbatical of renewal and continuing education. In September, we welcomed ABSW Middler Ashang Lolly as our Minister-in-Training as he fulfills his Master of Divinity degree requirements. And on December 31st, we bid farewell and Godspeed to Pastor Lauren Ng who has served for the past 5 ½ years as our Assistant Pastor with responsibilities for the 9:10 English Worship Service, young families, mothers support groups, and young adults. We pray that Pastor Lauren's plan to become a fulltime mother for their two daughters will be wonderful and that God will continue to bless her and her family in the years to come.

We thank God also for the faithful work of Nancy Guan, our Night School Coordinator who serves as our evening ambassador during the City College classes; Marian Hom, our Bookkeeper who excellently maintains our financial records; and finally and definitely not least, Wendy Lin, our Church Administrator who effectively oversees all of the operations of our church building and the church office. We thank God for the good health and vitality of our Pastor Emeritus Dr. James Chuck who is always willing to assist in pastoral work when we need him. We can confidently say that our church staff in collaboration with you, our church members have left countless footprints all over God's world in 2009!

The annual reports contained in this booklet will show us that every time we opened the front doors of our church, we showed up. If for whatever reason that you did not show up or that we missed you in 2009, we hope and pray that you might show up in 2010. While we may very well have left countless footprints for Christ last year, there are still many places and situations that God needs your footprint today. May we continue to be the one Body of Christ with its many members baptized by the Holy Spirit!

Chinese Speaking Ministries

Rev. Peter Lee

We have served the Lord together for a year! I am grateful that there were a lot of blessings from our Lord. I would like to mention seven blessings we got in 2009:

1. Blessed that our children served the Lord together.

Many families together joined our church. Most of the family members participate in different ministries. The parents set good examples that are followed by their children and others. While some of the children attend a different service from their parents, they are committed to serve in various aspects. My own children followed this valuable tradition and learned a lot from the church's ministries. They joined the choir, hand bells, and other musical ministries. They also attended Sunday school, Youth Camp, retreats, and fellowship activities. They even enjoyed our church cleaning days, too. When a family joined the Friday Night School ministry this past year, they used different musical instruments to lead songs in the Community Worship Service. I was delighted to see a future picture – all families with newborn babies this year joining in ministry in different ways. It is so good to spread the excellent traditions of our church with many new families.

2. Blessed that many couples served the Lord together.

It is wonderful that many couples served our Lord together. Lydia served as a volunteer in the church. She suggested a prayer ministry that was accepted and implemented. There was a prayer meeting every month in our home, during which we prayed and shared together. She also supported the C9 prayer meeting that met twice a month. Married mothers came together to share and support each other. They were indeed prayer warriors for our church. Lydia also cared for the Christian Circle, Agape Fellowship, Koinonia Fellowship, and Zion Fellowship by keeping close relationships with these different age groups. She was well prepared to lead songs in the services that fit with the sermon theme and helped brothers and sisters be absorbed in worship. She worked with the Chinese Ministry Workgroup and shared her opinions on worship and different fellowships. She will be joining the Missions Committee in 2010. You may not know this, but her major in her theological studies was mission ministry! Our church is permeated with the atmosphere that married couples serve together; pray that it shall continue in 2010.

3. Blessed that we have different generations in our church.

We have a lot of opportunities to meet our church friends' family members and relatives through home visits, hospital visits, weddings, and baby parties. It is very important to make friends with them and share our faith in daily life with them. Lydia and I made more than 70 home and hospital visits this year. We have conducted a wedding, a funeral, and a baby dedication. Some of these family members joined our services and became our friends. When we had fellowships in our home, the attendance was very high. It is wonderful to share the Christian faith with our lovely family members and relatives.

4. Blessed that our church was stable and has a good foundation.

Our Sunday morning service attendance was stable every week. It is important to help brothers and sisters consider the church as their spiritual family. While we still need to overcome many cultural differences between our congregations, our brothers and sisters, especially the Deacons and church staff, worked hard to successfully build a good foundation. When there is good communication and understanding, we can surely build up close relationships. I expect that more people will be joining the all-church activities and participate actively in those events.

5. Blessed that there was outreach ministry in our church.

It was wonderful that many joined our Friday Night School classes and fellowship times. When students came early, I met them in the classroom before the teachers arrived. We shared how our daily life went and became friends with each other. Sometimes they wanted to talk more with me and came to my office. We talked about the struggles of being immigrants and how our faith helped us. During dinner, we shared both joyful and bitter experiences. Many of them came from my mother's town, Toi Shan. One of the students was baptized this year and joined the church. His change was actually a miracle! There were many opportunities for us to serve in Chinatown. We held a fun day for the community at the end of October when more than 200 people came. Some shared their struggles with me and again we built up their friendships with us. I believe that there will be further development of our outreach ministry in the coming year.

6. Blessed that many newborn babies joined us.

Praise God that we have generations to new generations. When I first arrived, I conducted a baby dedication ceremony for several families. More babies were born in the last few months, and babies are still on the way in the coming year! Although we know it is not easy to bring up new babies, I am delighted to see that many young couples are prepared to take on this responsibility. There were also many spiritual newborn babies in our church, too. They were baptized or they transferred their membership to our church. We shall go on inviting people to join God's family.

7. Blessed that many shared their faith in their daily lives.

I attended a party recently for a brother's 70th birthday celebration. Besides the delicious food, what I found amazing was his guest seating arrangements. He arranged our church brothers and sisters to sit with his friends and relatives. By doing this, we were able to have good sharing with many non-believers. There was a family who held a party to remember his lovely mother. The party was full of joy. We sang her favorite song, read scriptures, and shared food from well-designed recipes. This celebration of life showed that we have hope for eternal life and bore witness to the non-believers. I pray that more of us would share our faith in our daily lives, leading more people to accept Jesus Christ as their Savior.

Jesus shared the Beatitudes near the mountainside. He went on to elaborate how to apply them in daily life. The seven blessings I mentioned are not perfect, but they remind us to serve the Lord together with joy and love!

Pastor of Christian Education

Chris Otani

“The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.” I Corinthians 12:12

This verse was the theme verse for 2009, highlighting our twin themes of fellowship and evangelism. Every year we try and shape our CE programs and camps around these themes if we can. In the beginning of 2009, the junior highers did a curriculum on friendship and I was able to team teach the senior high girls with Tiffany Lessler for a series on friendships and relationships for about 8 weeks. It was great to spend time teaching the youth!

Our day camp ministry continues to thrive and under the leadership of Sandy Tran and all of the senior counselors and staff, the campers had a great time at Day Camp 2009 “Where’s the Love?” based on 1 John 3:16. Youth Camp 2009 “All In!” based on Romans 12:9-10 was another tremendous experience. The speakers this year did a great job and really identified with the campers. Please enjoy reading the reports specifically from the directors below.

One thing that will stand out most to me in 2009 will be the sabbatical that I took from September to November. I’m so thankful for the church to grant me a sabbatical and also for those teachers and leaders who stepped up while I was away and kept everything running smoothly! I don’t even think I was missed ☺

Two of my main goals for the sabbatical were to 1) spend time in solitude and silence with God to discern His continuing vision for my ministry; and 2) to grow my preaching and leadership development skills through study and observation. To accomplish those goals, I worked with a spiritual director who helped me plan two 1 week-long personal retreats in September (Lake Tahoe) and November (Mendocino) where I was able to be alone with God in beautiful natural surroundings. I was able to pray, read scripture and sit at Jesus’ feet and listen. In those times, I truly realized what an introvert I am. An introvert is someone who gains energy by solitude and silence and is drained by being around large groups of people for too long. Understanding this will help me to manage my time better and to also help me schedule things that are renewing for me in the midst of busy ministry life.

My second goal was achieved by reading over 25 books in several ministry and personal development areas (Can you tell that I love to read?). Some of the most helpful books I read were: *Christ-Centered Preaching* by Bryan Chappell, *Transforming Discipleship* by Greg Ogden and the *Critical Journey* by Robert Guelich. I also visited a number of churches with different worship styles – from a big mega-church in Livermore to a small church plant in Sacramento. In visiting these churches it reminded me that church is not so much about the building or the worship band or even the sermon, but the best part of church is worshipping God with people that you love and care about. I did miss you all and am looking forward to putting into practice all that I learned for 2010!

Assistant Pastor

Lauren Ng

2009 has been a year of excitement and change.

The 9:10 Worship Service enjoyed its first full year of being in the church sanctuary. A consistent attendance and flow of worship began to emerge and God was faithful in raising up new leaders to help with all aspects of the service. Some highlights include the quarterly outreach events we participated in as a worshipping congregation, commissioning the Thailand Missions Team, baby dedications and the all-church Joyful Noise worship event that was born out of 9:10 service with Deacon Jason Yow as the visionary. A big thanks to the 9:10 Leadership Team (Jackie Chou, Jarrett

Jang, Matthew Dong, Genevieve Yow, Deacon Jason Yow, Deacon Diana Lee and Wendy Chu) for their hard work and discerning spirits.

The 9:10 worshippers enjoyed a combined adult Sunday School hour during the summer as they met for an 8-week *Discipleship Series* on the topics of Evangelism and Fellowship (FCBC's ministry emphases for the year). Students enjoyed learning from a variety of outside speakers as well as from Pastors Chris Otani and Jane Lam. Four students chose to take the Series for certification and completed weekly homework assignments based on the sessions. They received their certificates on Promotion Sunday.

This year also saw the start of a new ministry for engaged and married young adult couples called *The Married Life*. We had three events this year that all strived to help these young married couples center their relationships on Christ and deepen and mature their marital relationships.

The Moms Group ministry enjoyed a vibrant second year with meetings twice a month in the church library as well as quarterly events on the weekends that drew in mothers who work outside of the home as well. A big thanks to all the childcare volunteers who faithfully and graciously cared for the children while the Moms met together.

In September I submitted my resignation as Assistant Pastor in order to be a full-time mother to our two young daughters, Sage and Story. This was a decision that came after much prayerful consideration. As a family, we are excited about this considerable change but we will also miss you, our FCBC church family, dearly. However, we are emboldened and enlivened by God's eternal promise and perfect plan. We know the Lord has wondrous things in store for the young adult ministry at FCBC and the FCBC church family as a whole. We look forward to witnessing and celebrating those things with you in the future, as we will never be far in spirit.

Unending blessings upon all of you,
Pastor Lauren

Community Outreach

Jane Lam

Community Outreach Ministry in FCBC

Looking back in 2009, I cannot stop saying thanks to our Lord Jesus! He continued to bring newcomers to our ministry through Friday Night School (FNS): over 100 students take FNS classes; about 90–100 stay for dinner; 70–80 participate in Joshua Fellowship; and our monthly Community Worship Service attendance doubled from 30–40 to now 70–80 people. Many of the participants showed persistence in learning more about the Christian faith. We were also delighted to celebrate the baptism of Kevin Huang, a long-term FNS student, and welcome him into our church family.

→ **Pray that God will continue to bless our work, and draw more students closer to Him!**

(Please refer to Wallace Chu's report on Friday Night School and Joshua Fellowship for more details.)

Community Worship

Many students showed their eager hearts for truth by staying after class for Worship on the first Friday every month. This means that they would come with an empty stomach, as they wouldn't have dinner until 9:00 p.m. The monthly Community Worship was enhanced in many ways this year. Pastor Peter and I shared the pulpit regularly, so the messages being preached related more easily from month to month. Starting in the fall, we added more liturgies in the worship and taught the students how to pray the Lord's Prayer. The worship team was also invited to lead live worship (much better than our previous practice of playing a CD, due to our lack of instrumentalists).

→ **Pray that God will bring more students to know Him, so that they will wholeheartedly sing praises and worship to our King!**

Outreach Mobilization for FCBC Members

We had an Outreach Sunday on February 8th when teachers and core group members shared at all three services while I preached “Our Response to the Call of the Unreached” at the 11:30 Service. The Cantonese congregation also hosted a joint luncheon on July 26th with FNS students, who dedicated a song during worship. It was great to have the Friday night congregation meeting up with the Sunday morning congregation.

→ **Pray that God will inspire more to serve in this exciting ministry.**

Cell Ministry

It was a great year for cell ministry in 2009. Ainesis Cell group (formerly the Cell Group for College Sisters) was blessed by our Lord and underwent revival. Michelle Chen and Feng-Yi Wu served as leader and vice-leader of the group, and they will be passing the torch to Lillian Chen and Jennifer Situ as the new chair and vice-chair. Efforts were also made in nurturing the birth of various cell groups. I led a follow-up group for “tween” (teenage) girls that met on Friday afternoon for several months, until schedule conflicts prevented us from continuing. A new group for families with teenagers (Sherry Zheng as leader) started meeting in the summer time and we went out for a few outings. More encouragement is needed for the busy moms to meet again after fall. Another group for middle-aged sisters (Mei Ng as leader) just started to meet in December.

→ **Pray that God will continue to nurture all in our midst through sweet fellowship in Christ, especially those who do not belong to any group now.**

Word of Life Bible Study

As one of the starters of the Word of Life (WOL) ministry, I was delighted to see the love of God’s Word growing in our midst. Close to 30 of our brothers and sisters from the Cantonese congregation joined with more than 500 other believers in San Francisco, Los Altos, and Milpitas for three 8-week Bible Study series. WOL studied Genesis from February 5th–March 26th, Exodus from April 16th–June 4th, and Leviticus from September 17th–November 5th. Like BSF, WOL involved weekly homework, worship, group discussion, and lecture (video conferencing between Hong Kong and other sites). A few from FCBC (including Pastor Peter) also served in various capacities (as group leaders, on the technical team, and on the operation team) in this new ministry by CGST.

→ **Pray that more will have the persistence to study His Word as we go into Numbers and other books in 2010.**

Evangelism Explosion and Follow-up Training

Being a member of the Bay Area Evangelism Explosion (EE) Task Force, our church benefited from the joint efforts of EE Training. Along with six members of the Women & Brothers Club (mostly in their 80s), I attended a seminar of EE for seniors on March 12th at Cumberland. In addition, a few of our FNS students were converted during the EE certification visitation on March 16th–17th. Seven FCBC members also attended the follow-up training led by Rev. Peter H.P. Li from EE Hong Kong, on the 2 books *Follow-up – New Life, New Way* and *Further Follow-up – New Knowledge, New Value*.

→ **Pray that more of our church members will commit to experience the great joy of leading others to Christ!**

Seminary Study

It was great learning a lot in seminary and I got opportunities to apply what I learned right away. Courses like “Christian Spiritual Formation,” “Global Issues in Evangelism,” “Practicing Effective Leadership,” “Small Group and Discipleship,” and “Old Testament Interpretations - Prophets” all gave me great insights on practical aspects in ministry. I truly thank the Lord Jesus for this opportunity to learn!

→ **Pray that God will continue to bless me and the brothers and sisters at FCBC through this studying process.**

Mission Trip

I'm thankful I had the opportunity to go for a short-term mission trip to Dubai, ministering to laborers from Asia. I had the honor of preaching three times in a day, with three different messages (in Mandarin even) at three different churches whose congregations were really diverse: professionals, small business owners, and construction and factory workers.

→ **Pray that God will continue to bless the workers in the harvest field.**

Minister in Training

Mawonshang Vashum (Ashang Lolly)

Let me take this opportunity to thank each of you for your prayers, oversight and guidance in my internship. I have now been a seminarian with you for about five months, and the following is a summary of my activities from the time of my internship until the present.

- Pastor Donald Ng and I meet whenever we can and discuss various issues about ministry. I am extremely blessed to work along side of him and learn from Pastor Don and the church staff.
- I experienced personal growth in a dynamic way by assuming some of the responsibilities in the church. I learned how the church staff works together to achieve ministry plans for a year and year ahead. The experiences I am learning in this ministry site will help me move forward in pursuing my goals for ministry. The church itself has great leadership from which I have learned and experienced a lot from their points of view.
- I shared Naga history to one of the fellowship groups. It was a great experience for me, as well as I was very excited to tell the history of my people and let them know who we are and how the Christians came to our place. I have had the opportunities to preach in four services during this semester and assisted in leading the worship service every Sunday.
- I am continuing the pursuit of my Master of Divinity at American Baptist Seminary of the West. Please continue to keep me in your prayers as I seek the Lord's guidance and prepare for my study and ministry.

Night School Coordinator

Nancy Guan

Looking back in 2009, I can see God's grace filling me while I work as the Night School Coordinator at FCBC. Two City College ESL classes took place at our church every semester when about 50-60 students in total came each night. I got along well with the CCSF instructors and students during the semester. When the classes are in session, many students came asking for help in the church office. My usual duties were to help them fill out applications for immigration and affordable housing, translate mail, and renew medical insurance, etc. I am thankful for God allowing me to help do research for the needs of the students; at the same time increasing my own knowledge in these areas.

I remember a student once said that, whenever she gets mail and application forms in English that she doesn't understand; her first thought was to ask for help at the FCBC office. The students who go to school at our church not only have needs in English and other aspects in life, they also have spiritual needs. Many CCSF students come to our church's Friday Night School every semester, and then they stay for Joshua Fellowship to learn about God. CCSF night school classes become a bridge for FCBC and the Chinatown community. Many students learn about our church because they attend classes here every night.

When I am walking on the streets or going into stores in Chinatown, I always meet familiar faces of the CCSF students. They always greet me nicely. I sincerely pray that God will use the ministry at FCBC to make Jesus their good friend in life.

Board of Deacons

Luke Kwan

2009 was an eventful year for the Deacons and the church as a whole. Below are the highlights:

1. We welcomed Pastor Lee, Chinese-Speaking Pastor, and his family to our church family in January;
2. We approved Pastor Chris Otani's sabbatical request;
3. We licensed Jane Lam for the Christian Ministry. This is the first step toward her ordination;
4. We bid farewell to Assistant Pastor Lauren Ng, to become a full-time mother for her family in December;
5. We accepted Ashang Lolly as our Minister in Training (ABSW);
6. We licensed Moa Imchen for Christian Ministry and will continue to mentor and support him toward ordination;
7. We updated the membership directory by contacting all inactive members and friends;
8. We established an emergency fund procedure for deacon's fund distribution;
9. We clarified the role of the Chinese Ministry Workgroup;
10. We allocated deacon's fund to support people in need;
11. We started and will continue to seek out the possibility of having a long term rental agreement with the Chinatown YMCA to use their gym on Sunday mornings;
12. We kicked off the 130th Anniversary celebration committee;

I want to thank God for having a wonderful team of pastoral staff and fellow deacons who contributed their time and effort to serve on the board. Their efforts have helped FCBC continue the legacy of being a safe place for non-believers to seek out their faith and for Christians to grow deeper in discipleship. May God continue to bless our church so that we can continue to glorify Him as a church.

Board of Christian Education

Sheryl Chan

The purpose of Christian Education programs here at FCBC is to develop its students of all ages into followers of Christ who love God wholeheartedly, love others selflessly, serve faithfully, and strive to be more Christ-like, having God's heart for the world. The CE Board works closely with Pastor Chris Otani to support and nurture the over 50 different ministries under the umbrella of Christian Education here at FCBC.

2009 was another productive and rewarding year for the 11-member board. The board was co-chaired by Robert Mah and Sheryl Chan, and the other board members included Rev. Chris Otani, Steven Leung, Leslie Chin, Becky Chen, Shung Lam, Alan Fong, Eva Ung, and Mei Wong. All members were responsible for overseeing one of the following subcommittees: Nursery Ministry, Toddler Ministry, Children's Ministry (Pre K-1st, 2nd-3rd, 4th-5th), Junior High and Senior High Ministries, and Adult Ministries. What a blessing that the Nursery and Toddler Ministries continued to grow by leaps and bounds under the leadership of Becky Lessler and Serena Jang with the help of all their committed helpers. Serena Jang developed a Parent Information Letter as well as a "Toddler Jubilee" Information Sheet. Because of the growing attendance of babies and toddlers, more volunteers are always needed to help in the classroom during Sunday school. Carol Jensen and her helpers continued to successfully teach the children in pre-kindergarten and 1st grades. The elementary and junior high classes continued to thrive with the guidance of dedicated, faithful servants such as Ben Chau, Adam Kung, William Lam, Mei Wong, Rebecca Lee, Becky Chu, Keegan Doung, Jackie Ma,

Jeffrey Yue, Kyle Lessler, Tiffany Lessler, Matt Dong, Rick Wong, Matt Chin and many more hardworking helpers.

FCBC continues to have a vibrant and dynamic Adult Sunday School program for all three services. Don Lam led a Bible Study Class on the Book of Matthew with the assistance of Robert Mah and Wes Chan. Pastor Don Ng led a Sermon Talk-Back class for 6 months. George Lai and Clarence Chan led a class that included Apocalyptic Writings. After the 9:10 Service, Pastor Lauren Ng and Chris Chin led a class on Ethics that included topical discussions on moral and social issues from a Christian perspective. Ken Tom, Wendy Chu, and Leslie Chin led a Bible study on 1 Corinthians. The Chinese-speaking Sunday School classes that meet before the 11:30 Service included Bible Studies of John, Matthew, Ephesians, and Hebrews, and one for beginning believers to introduce them to the Bible. Anna Ng, Andrew Yue, Kit Wong, Winnie Lam, Luke Kwan, and Joseph Lee taught these classes.

A greater effort was made to more accurately evaluate the progress and needs of each of the ministries. Together, we worked towards better communication, support and encouragement of our esteemed Sunday School teachers so that our existing ministries may continue to flourish and grow.

Highlights included the very successful Teachers Appreciation Luncheon in June that honored more than 50 faithful and hard-working teachers and aides of our Sunday School program. Don Lam, Robert Mah, and Sheryl Chan coordinated this event. The freshly prepared lunch was delicious and enjoyed by all. Another successful highlight was the Fall Luncheon for the chairpersons of the 22 fellowship groups. This luncheon gave opportunities for the different groups to become reacquainted with each other around the table. The hope is that each fellowship group will schedule one or more joint activities with another fellowship group when they plan their 2010 calendar of events. Finally, the Board of Deacons approved the much-deserved sabbatical of Pastor Chris Otani from September through November 2009. It was a time for rejuvenation, reflection, and reading for her. The board also concluded the year by reviewing and approving the 2010 CE budget.

Thank you to all CE Board members who served in 2009, and to the teachers, advisors, counselors, and directors, and volunteers who make the CE ministries possible. Special thanks to outgoing members, Sheryl Chan, Alan Fong, Robert Mah, and Mei Wong. May God continue to bless you for your dedicated service. We offer a special prayer of thanks for Pastor Chris Otani, for her leadership, her guidance, and her passion for the ministry of Christian Education.

On behalf of the CE Board, I cordially invite all of you to join us in being a committed student and disciple of Jesus Christ by joining and/or leading a Bible study group or a Sunday School class or participating in a retreat or volunteering in a classroom or sharing your gifts and talents with others. As stated in Philippians 2:13-16: "... because God is always at work in you to make you willing and able to obey his own purpose. Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may be innocent and pure as God's perfect children.... You must shine among them like stars lighting up the sky, as you offer them the message of life."

Nursery--By Becky Lessler

The mezzanine on Sunday morning sometimes looks like a little beehive - steady hum, worker bees flitting here and there getting the work done.

The mezzanine on Sunday morning sometimes looks like the morning rush hour - people crowded end to end coming in and out of elevators, going up and down the stairs.

The mezzanine on Sunday morning sometimes looks like a busy Chinatown restaurant - families sitting together on little chairs feeding their young, workers running around trying to keep up with the customers.

The mezzanine on Sunday morning sometimes looks like the Amazon rain forest - an abundance of life at a man's height, and a whole other ecosystem less than a foot off the ground.

The mezzanine on Sunday morning sometimes looks like a fitness club - adults carrying 15# weights on one arm, two arms, front, piggy, doing squats, lifts, rocks, slides, horsies.

The mezzanine on Sunday morning sometimes looks like a parking lot - strollers triple-parked in all the traffic lanes.

The mezzanine on Sunday morning is always filled with the fellowship of three congregations of families.

The mezzanine on Sunday morning is always filled for God.

With praise to God for the circle of life, going strong at FCBC,

With thanks to the workers and 25+ families who truly make it a ministry,

Nancy Fong, Maddie Dong, John and Lana Tom, Franklin and Marian Hom, Dan and Diana Lee, Debbie and Doug Manguiat, Brenda Choy, Rosalie Jing, Laura Pang, and supporting cast Lea Wong, Sherry Pang, Samuel Yee, Clay and Jena Manguiat, and Becky Lessler.

Toddlers Jubilee--By Serena Jang

God's abundant blessings continue to grace our Toddlers Jubilee this year. Our Toddlers are growing physically, emotionally and spiritually this past year. Our weekly gatherings include a time of singing and praise, a Bible lesson, craft time, snack time and free play (where playdough is a weekly favorite). We have learned about important Bible people, how God takes care of us and how God asks us to take care of each others. We have had fun activities together including an Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt party, a Pumpkin Costume party and a Christmas Show. We have been blessed with an average of 12 to 18 kids each week, ranging from ages 2½ to 4 years old. We have also started a monthly newsletter titled, "The Toddlers Times," which keeps our parents informed.

A special thanks to our wonderful Toddlers teachers including Melanie Low, Serena Jang, Pat Yee, Hannah Lin, Anita Yong, Charles Yong, Genevieve Yow, Karen Li, Betty Jin, Josephine Wong, Pauline Tom, Linda Jang, Anna Lee, and Jennifer Erickson.

Children's Ministries –by Serena Jang

Every Sunday from 10 AM – 1 PM, children from the Chinatown community and our church families attend the FCBC children's program. We have Bible lessons, games and craft activities, and snack time. On the 3rd floor, our Pre-K to 1st Grade Class was led by Carol Jensen and San San Yue. On the 4th floor, the 2nd -3rd Grade Class was led by Benjamin Chau and Adam Kung, and the 4th – 5th Grade Class was led by Mei Wong and Rebecca Lee. Charlene Fong, Betty Jin, Lawrence Pang, and Eva Ung led fun and educational activities after the Sunday school lessons. Of course, So Be and Milton Dong always prepared healthy snacks for all the children. With these dedicated servants, our children were well fed physically and spiritually.

The Children's Ministry had a wonderful year in 2009. This year, the children went on two field trips. About 10 children and their teachers went ice-skating in February. In July, with a group of 50 people (children, parents, and teachers), we went to watch a movie. At the end of 2009, we had two great luncheons that brought both children and parents together. There were 40 people at the Thanksgiving Luncheon. A couple of weeks later, the Semanons prepared a special Christmas program for the children and their parents with great food and Christmas presents. We look forward to serving our community and continue to do more outreach in 2010.

Day Camp – Sandy Tran

“Where’s the Love?”

For the 5 ½ week Day Camp ministry of 2009, the theme of fellowship and evangelism was put to practice as the participating staff underwent internal trials, but persevered and gained growth in God's power. Praise God that all of the planned events ran very smoothly this year and any minor problems were quickly solved by the grace of God. I saw God working in all of the counselors as they poured out their love, patience, and time into each other and their campers. This year was an incredible learning experience for the entire camp in learning how to fellowship with one another and evangelizing to others, especially those close to us. Many of the campers and counselors continued and furthered their walks with God at Youth Camp; so praise God for that ministry too.

Junior High – Becky Chu

The Jr. Highs have been blessed with a new year with new teachers and kids. As Jackie Ma moved up to the Sr. Highs we have new teacher. All together they are Caroline Woo, Ian Heung, Jeff Yue, Keegan Doung and Becky Chu. We've also had some exciting events. The Jr. High kids and the participants always have a great time at the Cookie Bake during the Christmas Craft Fair. The kids also have a great time bonding and learning during the Jr. High Lock-in. And the kids have really taken an interest in the lessons they've been learning. We hope that God will continue to bless the Jr. High department in the 2010 year.

Senior High – Kyle Lessler

It has been an eventful year in the Senior High Department! God blessed the ministry with an abundance of leaders - even though Matthew Dong ended many years of service in the fall in order to attend graduate school. Jackie Ma and Odelia To joined Matthew Chin, Ricky Wong, Tiffany Lessler and Kyle Lessler in service for 2009-2010. God has done some wonderful things, including spiritual-packed retreats to Aptos and Tahoe, graduating a large and beloved group of seniors, and the use of a packed lesson curriculum taking us through the heroes of the Old Testament. One other blessing has been an increase in Senior High students who originally came to FCBC because of Day Camp - so big praises for that ministry's powerful work! As always we are thankful for the work done by the pastoral staff and the support of the 9:10 service. We are also thankful for one of our own leaders having the opportunity to attend the missions trip to Thailand and then the sharing of his experience. We look forward to a wonderful and God-led 2010 in the Senior Highs!!

Youth Camp – Kenneth Tom and Nathalie Yan *All In 2009*

Youth Camp 2009 was held the first full week in August at Redwood Glen Camp in Loma Mar, CA. And once again, God blessed us with an uplifting, spirit-filled week. Our theme this year was *All In!* that focused on fellowship and evangelism. The theme verse was Romans 12:9-10 which reads, “Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.” We were blessed with guest speakers Paul and Elaine Lai who shared and taught us how to live out these verses. Youth Camp was well attended with campers, counselors, and staff numbering 115+ strong. Together, we experienced a strong sense of community and fellowship, studied His word, and spent quality time in praise and worship. We praise God for the many who served and invested in this ministry and also for those who made first time decisions or new commitments. We look forward to serving again at Youth Camp 2010 and seeing how God continues to bless this amazing ministry.

Adult Committee – Alan Fong

The Adult Committee is a sub-committee of the Board of Christian Education. The Mission of the Adult Committee is to develop and implement programs for the adult congregations in order to equip members for discipleship, personal growth, ministry and service. The chairperson of this committee for 2009 was Alan Fong. Serving on the Adult Committee are Howard Lee, Wesley Chan, and Sharon Fong. Staff support for this past year was provided by Reverend Don Ng and Reverend Lauren Ng.

Events sponsored by the Adult Committee for 2009 are as follows:

- Chinese New Year celebration on February 8, 2009 coordinated by Dick Wong
- Four week Summer Series coordinated by Reverend Don Ng
- New Leadership Training Class for 9:10 Service during the summer but open to all church members based on the church theme for each year. Certificates of completion will be given to individuals who complete each session. Taught by Staff and outside speakers.
- Family Camp on September 5-7, 2009 coordinated by Alan Fong
- Senior Appreciation Luncheon (incorporated with Thanksgiving Luncheon) on November 22, 2009 coordinated by Reverend Don Ng
- Christmas Workshop on Sunday, November 29th coordinated by Sharon Fong
- Regional Lenten and Advent Study Groups

The Adult Committee also sponsors the Adult Sunday School Classes for the English and Chinese Speaking congregations. The classes this year have been held at Donaldina Cameron House and were led by our Pastoral staff and lay people of our congregation. In addition, various Bible Study groups meet throughout the year, with a special emphasis during Advent and Lent.

The Senior Center, which has been in existence for four years, will end their program this year with a Christmas Celebration. We thank Warren Lee and Gary Eng, among others, for their contributions and energy which made this program so successful.

Board of Trustees

Vincent Chan and Liane Wong

The Board of Trustees approved plans and funding for two major projects this year.

Stained Glass Windows Project- All 6 windows in the sanctuary will be repaired, cleaned, weatherproofed, and the wire grates removed by Bovard Studios in early 2010. This project is funded by special gifts given for this purpose.

Solar Energy Project- A total of 81 solar panels will be installed on the rooftop by Sun, Light, and Power of Berkeley in 2010. The project costs will be recouped in nine years and the panels will supply 107% of current electricity needs. This project is funded by the Diana Ming Chan memorial fund, special gifts, and rebates from PG&E and SFGoSolar.

YMCA Partnership Proposal- FCBC entered into talks with Chinatown YMCA to propose a long-term agreement to use their renovated gymnasium on Sundays for worship services, classes and activities.

Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs)- These life saving devices were installed in the vestibule and on 4th floor near the elevator for public accessibility.

All Church Clean Up Days (twice a year; Spring/Fall) - We encourage church members and friends to come on two Saturday mornings to clean and fix up our church building beyond our janitor's duty.

Information Technology / Website Task Force

Don Fong

The IT/Website Task Force is responsible for 2 major areas involving technology applications for FCBC:

- The Information Technology (IT) group focuses on network, infrastructure, desktop and laptop computers maintenance/support, and audio/video needs for use during worship services and special events.
- The Website group focuses on maintenance and content updates to the church website, www.fcbc-sf.org, technical interaction with the website's Internet Service Provider (www.ipower.com), and maintains the church's email system for the pastors, staff, and fellowship groups.

Listed below are highlights of each group's accomplishments this year:

Website:

- Focus on content improvement (primarily with the addition of over 300 new photographs – courtesy of Don Fong) has resulted in the following activities being showcased as unique web pages:
 - All Church Picnic, Sunnyvale (August)
 - Family Camp, Santa Cruz (September)
 - Believers Baptisms (April and December)
 - Community Volunteering Service Projects (San Jose Family Shelter) (January)
 - All Church Fellowship event, “Live in Harmony” music performances (April)
 - Rev. Peter Lee family reception (January)
 - Rev. Peter Lee Installation service (March)
 - ABSW Commencement (Say Amen! Gospel Ensemble performance) (May)
 - Married Life Fellowship (July)
 - Senior Appreciation/Thanksgiving Luncheon (November)
 - 9:10am English worship (baby dedication / Farewell Reception) for Rev. Lauren Ng (December)
- News, Press Release and Recognition information categories defined showing:
 - Found 3 web pages noting Press Releases (Gordon Chan Post Office Renaming, CA Interfaith Power & Light – site recognition for energy conservation)
 - Thailand Mission Trip Blog (November)
- Website Statistics Report (using AWStats application provided by www.ipower.com) shows:
 - Number of unique visitors (2009 monthly avg: 893); Oct. -1054, Nov. - 946, Dec. - 1078
 - Number of pages viewed (2008 monthly avg: 3841); Oct. - 3595, Nov. - 3717, Dec. - 5051

Information Technology:

- Replaced aging laptop with new church purchased laptop computer for Rev. Chris Otani
- Chinese fonts maintained for Microsoft Office usage in church office and public desktop computers
- Ongoing maintenance for laptop and desktop systems, pertaining to virus protection upgrades, system backups, email issues, and Microsoft Office issues

Gift Planning Committee

Joel Jang

Designated Giving Ministries – In 2009, the overriding focus for the Gifts Planning Committee (GPC) was to take the lead in redefining, redirecting and recommending the use of FCBC’s Designated Funds and Non-Designated Funds. In our church’s 2008 Annual Report, the totals of these two funds were \$345,000 and \$285,000 respectively. God has blessed our members and opened the hearts of many givers over the years. However, a number of people had expressed that it is not a healthy situation for a non-profit religious organization to receive funds and not function in good stewardship to make good use of the funds. In other words, money should not be sitting idle, while the needs for Christian ministries are many. Most donors would expect the recipient to actively and prudently expend these funds for their intended services and beneficiaries.

A Deacons Committee – While the Gifts Planning Committee is under the Board of Deacons; members of the GPC perform the research and groundwork. Occasionally, reports are made to the board on current matters being addressed by the committee. One such report was made in October after the committee modified the nomenclatures of the Designated Funds and prioritized them into ten categories. The committee completed this process after several dinner meetings. The Finance Committee was also consulted. After receiving positive confirmations from the Deacons and Finance, the committee revised its 2-page brochure on Gifts Planning to incorporate the titles and the prioritized order of designated giving ministries. This brochure was later inserted in the worship bulletins on Gifts Planning Sunday, November 8.

Financial Management – Having money around is always good news. An accumulation of money donated over time does call for ongoing discernment and proper judgment for its intended use. In the Gifts Planning Committee, we try to promote and encourage persons to give. And people continued giving in 2009. We also expect our financial officers to prudently invest and manage our church funds, including direct pledges and deferred giving. More importantly, we want to pray and urge our church staff, officers and leaders to take advantage of the funds available to do ministry. For example, we may want to be proactive in seeking candidates for seminary training or to serve in missions work.

Who Matters? – As we know, the money that the church receives are gifts from God anyway. Since we are entrusted to use these funds as we see fit, to what extent does it matter if it continues to largely remain dormant? It matters very much for the beneficiaries of today. Just as we are beneficiaries of visionaries who planted the seeds in Chinatown 130 years ago, so we must try to share the good news with others in our lifetime. We can carry on His work in one of prioritized ten ways.

When Giving Stock – If a donor wishes to give stock to the church, FCBC’s Finance Committee has requested that the donor instruct his or her broker to remit the funds by electronic transfer. The donor must include the following information in the letter or other transfer documents:

Broker set up by the church: Charles Schwab Co., 101 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104

Beneficiary: First Chinese Baptist Church, 1 Waverly Place, San Francisco, CA 94108-2118

Tax ID 94-1415308

Brokerage Account Number 9774-4585

DTC #0164, Code 40

Contact Persons – If you are interested or planning to make a gift to our church, we invite you to contact any one of the following GPC members: Steven Ng, Shirlene Leong Nakano, Keith Louie, Wendy Quan, Joel Jang, or Pastor Don Ng. May God continue to bless you abundantly!

Missions Committee

Steven Ng

2009 was a busy and remarkable year. After many years of contemplating having a FCBC mission conference, the Missions Committee worked together and organized the first ever FCBC Missions Conference Day on October 11. The theme was “Vessel of Hope.” We invited ABC missionary consultant Rev. Luran Bethell to share the mission message in all three worship services. She was the founder of the New Life Center in Chiang Mai, Thailand, and we felt more connected with this ministry as she shared some real life saving stories. People who had gone to mission trips during the past few years shared their experiences at the Sunday school time. In the afternoon, we organized a mission fair on the fourth floor that was well attended. Many brothers and sisters spent hours preparing the poster boards to present various mission agencies and their short-term mission trip experiences. Special thanks to Janey Chan who served as our overall coordinator of the mission fair on that day. We hope that we will continue to educate ourselves and elevate our participation in world missions.

Another event was the two-week mission trip sponsored by International Ministries and Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP). Six 9:10 service worshippers traveled to northern Thailand to construct a water infrastructure system for a hill-tribe of 80+ villagers. The project included laying and burying 2+ miles of PVC pipe from a clean water source, constructing a 4 ft. filter system and a 15 ft. water tank, forming 18 toilets, and establishing 5 faucet spouts throughout the village. The mission trip was spiritually and physically challenging, but rewarding as God’s face shines on the hill-tribe and the country of Thailand. The mission team has put together some presentation materials and is ready to share with your fellowship group. Please contact Kenley Mew for details.

Several of our college students attended the 2009 Urbana Mission Conference in St. Louis in December. Urbana happens every 3 years and targets college students. We understand that for the past two centuries, God uses the college movement to mobilize and advance His kingdom. Through this knowledge and opportunity, we can enable our college age church members to experience and realize a greater life goal to achieve big things for God.

This is our ninth years participating in the Operation Christmas Child project. We collected 109 boxes this year. Many children’s lives around the world were touched and blessed. God’s love is being shared through these shoeboxes.

Chris Chin is the committee chair in 2010 and there are plans to further God’s kingdom through the efforts of this committee. God has richly blessed FCBC for several generations. Missionaries established our church some 130 years ago. Today, God calls us to actively partner with others to do missions in the world. We are the “Vessel of Hope” in this world. Are you ready to participate?

Music & Performing Arts Committee

Wendy Quan

Thanks to all participants of our music ministry, our directors, accompanists, choir members and special musicians; FCBC continues to have a very long tradition of vibrant and spirited worship through music.

Our committee, comprised of Keith Louie, Bill Leong, Wendy Quan, Anita Yong, as well as ex-officio members who are directors and accompanists, met quarterly to share and discuss music programs of all Sunday morning services. We were challenged to envision a music outreach ministry that extends beyond Sundays and proposed a Friday night youth program, which went into development and is poised for a future opportunity.

Thanks also goes to our English speaking committee members who recycled many anthems stored in the music closet and donated sheet music to a seminary in Assam, India, where Moad Imchen and Akumla Longchar originate.

We were asked by the Board of Deacons to lend support to *Live in Harmony*, a church-wide event and have begun plans for 2010 in earnest. Finally, the committee sponsored a joint choir event in October, in which anthems were introduced and later performed en masse for Pledge Sunday and Christmas. We hope to plan a Saturday morning retreat for all choir members in 2010.

CBC Choir continues to provide weekly anthems during the English speaking service at 10:20 AM through the faithfulness of its regular members, led by Victor Low. The men's chorus has also provided faith inspired musical offerings on a monthly basis.

Say Amen! Gospel Ensemble

The Gospel choir began its 10th season in September with co-directors Wendy Quan and Joy Shih Ng. Becky Lessler continues to be the choir's accompanist. In 2009 the choir collaborated with the CBC Choir, Chinese Choir, and the Bell Choir to perform joint anthems for the special All Church worship services, and for the church's annual *Live in Harmony* event in April. An exciting event was a photo of the choir appearing on the cover of the J.W. Pepper 2009 Christmas music catalogue.

Bell Choirs

We have been fortunate to have had 25 years of faithful leadership from Melanie Low, who has mentored both Wai Ling Wong and Lawrence Pang, who themselves have taken on regular practice and performance schedules. The choirs are grateful for special opportunities to ring bells e.g. Piedmont Gardens, as well as participating in bell workshops which help to develop techniques and inspire members. Members range in age from 10 to 25 years of age, and are hardworking and amazing.

Chinese Speaking Music Ministries

We are grateful to the fine musicians, praise teams, accompanists and choir members who help to enhance the worship experience for our 11:10 congregation. Special prayers are requested for new choir members. Thank you everyone!

One final note: please offer your thanks and praise for every church musician and for those willing to accept new opportunities to enhance the worship by using their musical talents, who include Andia Lee, (organ) and Colby Chuck (flute).

Social Committee

Sharon Fong and Darlene Mah

2009 was a productive and rewarding year for the 10 member Social Committee. This year, the committee was co-chaired by Sharon Fong and Darlene Mah. The members include Wes Chan, Sharon Chen, Jennifer Erickson, Jasmine Erickson, Evelyn Louie, Keith Louie, Helen Poon, and Yuk Mei Ng.

The highlights of the year were the following:

- January: Pastor Peter Lee's welcome reception
- April: Baptism reception
- August: Annual Picnic
- November: Thanksgiving Luncheon
- December: Pastor Lauren's Goodbye Reception

All of the above functions were not possible without the teamwork of the committee. Though each event was challenging at times, everything eventually came together smoothly in each case.

Pastoral Relations Committee

Joel Jang

2009 Committee Reorganized – Just before 2009 got started, Pastor Don sent out an email to members of the then Pastoral Relations Committee. Repeating part of that message, Pastor Don expressed “In the advent of Pastor Lee joining the church staff and the plan to provide Jane Lam with a lay support committee, we [the pastoral staff] have made a decision to revamp the PRC [committee] as we currently are organized. We want to deeply thank the current members on the committee and suggest that your service on the committee is completed. We appreciate the prayer support and your care for the pastoral staff.” Subsequently, the following members were appointed by the respective pastors and later confirmed in a church election:

PASTORS

Don Ng
Peter Lee
Chris Otani
Lauren Ng
Jane Lam

PRC MEMBERS

Joel Jang, Convener and Byron Chan
Che Chiu Yee and Milton Dong
Wes Chan and Carol Jensen
Wendy Quan and Franklin Hom
Wallace Chu and Lisa Chau Kwan

Meeting in May – On Sunday, May 24, all members of the newly organized committee met with Senior Pastor Don over lunch in the Fellowship Hall. At that meeting, Pastor Don described the role and the expectations of the PRC person. He expressed his appreciation on behalf of all the pastors for the members to serve. He also suggested that the committee meet with him as senior pastor several times a year. Since the other pastors will not be attending these meetings, it was urged that the respective PRC members meet with their pastors regularly, once a month or as needed. The two appointed members should meet together with the pastor if convenient; if not, then one to one.

Sample Duties – A 2-page handout describing the role of the PRC member was first distributed in 2000, which was revised in April 2009 for distribution to the current PRC members. Among a list of the 12 identified duties charged to the PRC person, here are some samples:

- Serve as a communications link among the pastors and between pastors and the congregation.
- Function as a “safe place” for pastors to confide in [with the PRC person] whenever it is appropriate on concerns that affect the effectiveness of one’s ministry.
- Plan special times with the pastor to engage in extended conversations, such as over lunch

Many Thanks – As the convener of the committee, on behalf of all the PRC members, I wish to thank the pastoral staff for their prayerful devotion to serve in our church. I also want to thank the committee members for their attendance in meetings, spending time with their pastors, and in other ways that contribute to the well being of our church staff and their families. For us in the committee, it was an honor to be selected. We invite church members to share with us on matters that may affect any of the pastors, his or her family, and their ministries. Anything you wish to share with a PRC member will be held in confidence unless we ask for your permission. Please help us to extend our role as the eyes and ears for our pastors to serve in their ministries more joyfully and effectively.

Sports Ministry

John Tom

The Sports Ministry committee members for 2009 were Matt Chin, Brandon Fong, Jayson Gatdula, Rev. Chris Otani, and John Tom (chairperson).

The objective of the Sports Ministry committee is to invite church members and friends, young and old, English and Chinese speaking, to participate in sporting activities. Our hope is that the participants would find the love and grace of God through these activities and fellowship time. This year, we sponsored the following events:

1. Entered 3 teams in the CCU summer basketball league,
2. Entered 2 teams in the CCU summer softball league,
3. Entered 2 teams in the CCU summer volleyball league,
4. Golf tournament in June,
5. Tennis tournament in June,
6. Ping Pong tournament in September and
7. Bowling tournament in November.

The coaches for the CCU Basketball were Albert Chin/Roger Chen for silver team, Eric Chin/Chris Cheng for bronze team, Tony Ng/John Tom for the Youth team. The coaches for the CCU Softball were Alan Fong and Donald Ma. The coaches for the CCU Volleyball were Jayson Gatdula and Brenda Choy.

We had over 30 men and women played in our 8th Golf Tournament at Monarch Bay Golf Course in San Leandro on June 15. After the tournament, the tournament coordinators, Butch Chan and Joel Jang, delivered a check for over \$2,800 to support FCBC Day Camp low-income subsidies, Youth Camp and basketball outreach ministries.

We want to thank all the coaches, event coordinators, team managers, spiritual leaders, and volunteers who supported the Sports Ministry program.

Agape Fellowship

Anita Yong

The Agape Fellowship consists of married couples and young families gathering for home fellowships once a month. The dynamics are great and the focus on fellowship, rather than just on programs, is developing strong relationships and support for each other. Usually the fellowship starts off with a short program, then we share and update each other on our lives followed by breaking up into small groups to pray.

This year, we welcomed our new Pastor for the Chinese speaking congregation as well as his lovely wife. They have been an incredible support as well as a treasure trove of experience. Our fellowship also welcomed some new family members too. Vincent and Matia Chan added baby Jadon. Nachi and Joanne Lau added baby Elias. Warren and Alvina Tai added baby Michelia. We celebrated with these new parents and happily played babysitters for all of their children.

Ainesis Cell Group

Michelle Chen translated by Lilian Chen

We are so thankful that God was with us and kept everyone safe in 2009.

Our group experienced so many meaningful events. First, we named our group the Ainesis Cell Group. This name means a lot to us. It reminds us that we have to always remember how good God is to us. Our group meets once a month on the 4th Sunday. We share a different topic with each other each time we meet. We sing praise songs, have lunch, and pray for each other.

We were happy that there were three new members that jointed our group last year. They are Angela Situ, Jennifer Situ, and Lilian Chen. The most unforgettable moment for our group was that Jennifer had her Baptism during Christmas time. In order for us to get to know each other, we had some outside activities together such as having a picnic with friends and family members, and preparing dinner for Friday Night School students. We also shared with each other how we were most thankful to God on Thanksgiving weekend.

From some of our group members' experience of praying to God for things they wanted, and God did answer, it inspired others to also pray and believe in God. Hopefully, our group will become a bigger gathering in 2010.

Ashira l'Adonai Fellowship

Shannon Kong

Ashira l'Adonai is the young adult fellowship group for people in their twenties. On average, we meet every other month with 8-12 people attending.

Two of Ashira's highlight events were also new ventures for our group. We had our first Ashira Iron Chef competition at church, with the secret ingredient being soy (for example: tofu, soy milk, edamame). It was a yummy success, and we discovered a few great chefs in our midst! We also went fruit picking in Brentwood with the Sojourners fellowship group in June. The weather was perfect and the peaches, nectarines, apricots, and cherries were deliciously sweet. We will be repeating these two events in 2010, so hopefully they will become annual traditions for Ashira in the years to come.

Shannon Kong and Matt Chin will be chairing Ashira in 2010, with help from our advisors John Tom and Brenda Choy. Feel free to contact any of us with questions about Ashira.

C9 Prayer Group

Anita Yong

The members of the C9 group are married women in the Chinese congregation that meet twice a month for prayer and support. The time together is spent catching each other up and sharing our needs, hopes and sometimes disappointments. Afterwards we pray together and lift all those items up to God. The group went through a change in format midyear. We are now using a prayer spreadsheet, which all members can update, to pray for one another. It has worked well in that, when we gather, the first thing we do is pray based on the items in the spreadsheet. This way, we can pray for the ladies that are not able to make it physically to the meeting but still need our spiritual support. Then afterwards we share about our lives some more. It is a warm environment and gives us a chance to get to know each other more outside of Sunday service.

Christian Circle

Shung and Faye Lam

For the Christian Circle Fellowship (CCF), 2009 was a year of probing. Not only did we change the time and format of our fellowship, we also re-oriented ourselves regarding membership and the direction CCF is heading. Having an “empty nest” is becoming a common phenomenon among the original CCF member families as their children grew up, left for college, got married and became independent. Now CCF no longer stresses families as its member units, instead we welcome all adult members and friends of FCBC. We also put an effort to diversify our fellowship programs. In April, Lydia See-mo conducted a hands-on class on “Spiritual Life Training through Calligraphy.” In May we had a seminar on “Nutrition and Health” by Sandy Lai who is a licensed nutritionist. Both events were highly acclaimed and extremely popular. We are very thankful for God’s blessings. This past year we had several new members joining our fellowship. God also brought Pastor Lee and Lydia to us. With their nurturing leadership and advice, CCF is marching on steadily into a new decade.

Emmanuel Family Group

Mary and Danny Lee

Emmanuel Family Group is a 47 years young fellowship group comprised of 38 individual families. The group meets on the 2nd Saturday of every month, except in August. Meetings are usually held at a member’s home, beginning at 3:00 PM with announcements, singing and sharing of news, followed by devotion and a program, then a good dinner and fellowship before concluding at around 7:00 PM.

As we say adios to 2009, we are thankful for God’s continuing blessings in keeping our Group and individual families intact, deepening our fellowship, strengthening our Christian service spirit, and affording the Group to contribute a token of support and encouragement to the Boys Camp which was founded by FCBC members George Lai and Clarence Chan and friends many years ago.

In a nut shell, 2009 was a thriving year for EFG. Our monthly meetings were well attended, and many members continue to sing in the choir, teach English night school, and serve as deacons or trustees. We welcomed a most talented new family, Daniel and Grace Leung and their son Lucas and daughter Danette. Daniel and Grace led us to sing a medley of 3 songs; namely, *In A Moment Like This*, *Emmanuel*, and *Holy, Holy*, for the 10:20 AM service anthem in August. Everyone loved singing the songs so much that we volunteered to sing them for the 11:20 AM anthem on the Sunday we celebrated our 47th Anniversary. We also added Muriel Chan to our regular membership roster.

Some highlights of 2009

- Participation in Oakland's Wa Sung Community Service Club's annual crab feed at the San Leandro Boys & Girls Club on March 14th. Arnold Mew, serving as an officer many times, and Helena Mew have been active in that club for years.
- February 7th found many EFG members at the Sabbatical Banquet for Pastor Karen Yee, daughter of Jimmy and Nancy at First Baptist of Alameda. A token contribution was presented to Karen in recognition of her doing wonderful work at First Baptist of Alameda where she is well loved and respected.
- Many members signed up to serve lunch to the needy at St. Anthony's. Kudos to Albert and Elaine Lee who coordinated this effort and for consistently doing that on their own once a month.
- We again participated in Wa Sung Service Club's annual picnic in July held at the beautiful Port of Oakland Community Park by the water with a view of the San Francisco skyline. It was a beautiful summer day.
- On Sept. 13th, 60 faithful walking bodies gathered for the luncheon at Far East Café on Grant Avenue to celebrate EFG's 47th Anniversary and Dr. James Chuck's 80th birthday, with singing and testimonials and presentation of theatre tickets for Dr. Chuck and Marie Chuck to see the show, South Pacific. A high point prior to the conclusion of the luncheon was Bill Chin's presentation of his thoughtfully well-crafted slide show comprising of EFG group activities in the past and 3 pictures from personal albums of each individual family. Thanks to Bill and Flo Chin's persistence and cooperation from members to achieve 100% participation in having 3 personal family pictures from each of our 38 families.
- We concluded the year with a December meeting at Dick and Anna Wong's house with Pastor Chris Otani sharing her sabbatical experience, followed by presentation of a Hollywood production caliber slide show of The Square and Circle Club's more than 80 years legacy in serving the Chinatown community. Daisy Leong and Sophie Tom are long time active members of the club. Daisy joined while in high school, after winning a Square and Circle Club scholarship, and she has recruited EFG members to join her and Sophie to be active S & C members; namely, Mary Lee, Sharon Young Leong, and Anna Wong.

We thank God for His abundant blessings, and pray that He will continue to grant us joy, peace and good health, enabling us to be His good messengers.

Anyone who wishes to join the Emmanuel Family Group may contact any or our 2010 officers:

Richard and Sophie Tom, Chair persons
 Danny and Mary Lee, Vice Chairs
 Philip and Pearl Jang, Treasurers

Faithfully Loving Youth (F.L.Y.)

Debora Mok

F.L.Y. stands for "faithful, loving youth." It serves the Chinese-speaking youth in our community in the age group of 13 to 17.

Two of the youth in our fellowship graduated from high school this May and one of them was baptized this November at the Golden Gate Church. We have two new members joining us this year and we have a total of 4 youth regularly attending our fellowship. Every Sunday we have Bible study together at church from 12:45am to 1:45 pm. We have been studying the book of Acts since the beginning of this year. We've also participated in the Harvest Festival at church this October. We helped organize games and serve kids that were coming to the festival.

In the coming year, we look forward to have more activities together and continue to pray for each other's needs.

FROG Fellowship

Adam Kung

We used to call them “kids” in the fellowship before. However, we realized that some of the “kids” are going to high school next year. So we may need to change our habit, and call them “youth.”

As for the age range of FROG fellowship, there are 2 groups: youth and kids. Youth are attending middle school now, and kids are attending elementary school. All advisors agree that the age range is diverse, and we don't think the same material would fit 2 groups at the same time. Therefore, we decided to have 2 individual programs every meeting. Shirley Ngai and Ben Chau will take care of the younger group, and Kenneth Chow and Adam Kung will teach in the older group.

GIFT Fellowship

Courtney Tsunehara

The GIFT Fellowship Group had another great year in 2009. Our fellowship group meets four times a year. Our events this year included:

In February, we had a Chinese New Year party at Karen and Banny Li's house. We enjoyed delicious Chinese food and the children did a Chinese New Year craft.

In July, Dana and Tim Wong helped coordinate a family outing to Cull Canyon. We all gathered together to eat and swim and had a great time.

In October, Guy and Kimmie Takahashi hosted a Halloween Party. The night consisted of good food, a jumpy house for the kids, and best of all, a Halloween fashion show starring all of the children of GIFT Fellowship.

In December, we had our 3rd annual Christmas party at Eva and Arlen Ung's home. As usual, Santa came to visit and all of the children enjoyed hearing the Christmas story.

Our fellowship group continues to be blessed with so many wonderful children. In 2008, our fellowship welcomed eight new babies. In 2009, our newest member is Caroline Wong, daughter of Dana and Tim Wong. As a fellowship with many young children, we would like to thank all of the church members who volunteer their time at the Nursery, Toddler Time, Sunday School, and Mom's Group. We all feel very fortunate to be part of such a supportive and nurturing church both for our children and ourselves. Thank you!

Joshua Fellowship and Friday Night School

Wallace Chu

God is always faithful to us. Our Lord has continued His blessing for the Friday Night School and Joshua Fellowship.

Early in the year, God brought Pastor Peter Lee across the ocean from Hong Kong to our church to serve in the Chinese Speaking Congregation. His presence is providing essential support for the ministry. He helped to enhance the relationship with the growing number of men while Pastor Jane Lam has already built a solid bonding with many women attending the program.

The number of students kept increasing rapidly in 2009. There were over 70 students consistently attending the Joshua Fellowship after class. They do enjoy the fellowship time. There are a variety of programs such as Bible studies, workshops, sharing, games, and regular monthly worship. The Gospel was new to many of the students since they had never heard about Jesus Christ before in China. They have shown great interest in finding out more about Christianity and the truth of Bible.

With close to 100 students staying for dinner each Friday, we recruited more help in the church kitchen. We whole-heartedly thank the many fellowship groups and individuals for working wonders in preparing delicious meals with a tight budget that we allowed.

As a yearly tradition, we invited them to the Evangelistic Meeting prepared by the brothers and sisters of our church on December 18th. Over a hundred students attended. Eleven accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and more than twenty of them indicated that they want to find out more about Jesus.

We are thankful for God who gave us the opportunity to share the good news through this ministry. As there are so many non-believers and new believers, follow up work becomes a great need. Please continue to pray for the ministry. If you have the burden or you want to find out more about this outreach opportunity, please do not hesitate to talk to us.

Koinonia

Debora Mok

Koinonia is a young adult career group that meets every 1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays. On every 5th Saturday, we have combine fellowship with Zion. This year we've had about 10 brothers and sisters regularly attending our fellowship.

The activities we had for this year were skiing, serving at Friday Night School and participating in the Harvest Festival. We also dedicated one fellowship meeting every quarter to set our fellowship goals and to do program planning together. The last meeting we had on 12/5 was very fruitful. We feel we need to bring each other even closer in the coming year with emphasis in deeper sharing and having Bible studies more often. From there we can help build each other up in the words of our Lord.

I look forward to fellowship with brothers and sisters again in the coming year and to build a stronger fellowship together.

Men's Fellowship

Alan Fong

Members of the Men's Fellowship have been busy in all phases of our church life, from taking care of children in the Nursery and Toddler Program; teaching Sunday School; singing in the different choirs; and by being active in all the standing committees and boards at First Chinese Baptist Church.

This year the Men's Fellowship offered a number of activities to appeal to the different segments of our church population. Highlights of 2009 included the following:

- Service Project at San Jose Family Shelter- Don Fong
- Hiking in Lynch Canyon – Steve Lessler
- Men's Ministry Meeting at Rev. Peter Lee's-Rev. Don Ng
- Cooking for the Church Picnic
- Oyster Shucking & Hike in Tomales Bay- Wes Chan

Our final event for 2009 was a holiday breakfast at the Cliff House with our spouses. Eleven couples attended this event and had a great time. Thank you to Dick Wong for coordinating this event.

Chairperson Alan Fong acknowledges the tremendous assistance and support of the men at First Chinese Baptist Church who participated in our events this year, with a special thank you to our Advisory Committee composed of John Tom, Don Ng, Nelson Wong, Dan Lee, Wes Chan and Don Fong for their suggestions and insights. Alan Fong will serve as Chairperson for 2010.

OYYA

Paul and Maxine Fong

The OYYA fellowship started out as young adults and now we are all senior citizens. Our theme has always been *Growing Old Together in Service to God*. Many of us enjoy being grandparents. We are always seeking God's guidance and protection for the little ones.

Our advisors are James and Marie Chuck. On the occasion when James celebrated his 80th birthday in 2009, every member expressed his or her appreciation for their faithfulness and spiritual guidance for so many years. We were treated with Dr John Chuck's excellent leadership at the Adult Retreat at Redwood Glen. It's true that an apple doesn't fall too far from a tree.

We went on a 5-day car trip to visit Chinese temples and museums in the Oroville area to appreciate the early Chinese pioneers in California. Led by Butch and Gayle Chan who have traveled around the world but we all found these short "local" trips with longtime friends the best of all trips.

Other notable events were Chinese New Year's Dinner hosted by Richard and Sophie Tom; a visit to an animal and bird farm in the Sacramento Area to support Sue Chan's work; a visit to the USO at the S.F. Airport that assist members of the U.S. Armed Services; a Christmas concert organized by Pauline Tom; attendance at FCBC Live in Harmony and finally meeting with Rev. Peter Lee and his wife Lydia. Their vision for FCBC gives encouragement to us old folks that the church will be in good hands for years to come.

Semanon

Debbie Chong-Manguiat

In **January**, the Semanon Fellowship Group began with our annual "**Reflections**" meeting at the home of our advisors, Maxine and Paul Fong (aka Mic & Pungo). We shared the significant events of the previous year and discussed the upcoming year over dinner.

At our **February** meeting, Pastor Don Ng shared his slides and insights from his trip to Israel. We enjoyed seeing and learning about the places that he and his group visited.

Our **March** Fire Safety meeting was cancelled because we could not coordinate our dates with an available location large enough to accommodate the group.

In **April**, some members participated in the annual trip to Yosemite National Park.

No Meetings were held in **May, June, and July**.

In **August**, Semanon members attended the Church Picnic.

In **September**, Semanon members participated in Family Camp over the weekend of September 5-7.

In **October**, we held our Planning Meeting for **2010** at Alan and Charlene Fong's home.

In **November**, our group participated in the All-Church Clean-up Day. This year, the Semanon had the largest number of participants at the clean-up. Our group also helped to provide the turkeys for the Thanksgiving Luncheon. *Thank you to all who were able to help us with the turkeys!*

On **December 20th**, we hosted a Christmas Party and Luncheon for the Sunday school students and their families at **FCBC**. Over 30 kids from the Chinese-speaking congregation attended the party. Santa Claus and his helpers were there to pass out gifts. It was a wonderful experience to see all the children enjoying their lunches along with their friends and families and when they opened their gifts from Santa.

Senior Adult/Youngfolks Fellowship

George Lai

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Indeed, the Senior Fellowship and Youngfolks have much to be thankful for in 2009. We learned much from new experiences, grew in our relationships with one another, and expanded our horizons in serving others.

Rev. Don Ng, Rev. James Chuck, Rev. Peter Lee, and Doug Yow were speakers at four of our programs. George Lai led a program on what motivates our behavior. Our visit to the Academy of Sciences was enlightening. Our Fall retreat with the Emmanuel Family Group and OYYAs at Redwood Glen with Dr. John Chuck was inspirational, restorative, and informative.

Our two service projects included the Seafarers's Ministry project, where we donated twenty-four knapsacks filled with personal items for seamen on cargo ships, and we helped with food services at St. Anthony's Mission.

We closed the year with a visit to the Bay Model in Sausalito and a Christmas dinner at Ben and Susan Lee's in San Anselmo.

Youngfolks continued its annual table decorations for FCBC's Thanksgiving luncheon and the laundering of the nursery curtains.

We usually meet on the second Friday of each month for a program followed with lunch. The officers this year were Sophia Chong representing the Senior Fellowship and George Lai for the Youngfolks.

Senior Center

Warren Lee

We formed our senior center six years ago with a mission of serving the seniors of the FCBC and the community. We visualized a place where seniors could gather together for Christian fellowship. Retired people need a place to go to, too, and our goal was to provide a friendly place where everyone is welcome. To be sure, our experience in the early years was up and down but soon we focused on a framework of fellowship, learning, and exercise, each of which is essential to our wellbeing.

We thank all of our members for their support. Every meeting is a do-it-yourself experience in setting things up, taking them down, and then putting them back to where they were at the beginning. It couldn't have been done without all of you pitching in to help. Furthermore, we are grateful for your financial contributions, which helped us to be self-supporting for the entire six years. Finally, we want to recognize the following key people: Gary Eng, Pearl Eng, George Lai, and Jimmy Yee. They were there for practically all the meetings and carried out their responsibilities unhesitatingly—thank you for a great team effort!

Now is the proper time for change. New ideas and improved ways of doing things are what drive the world. Dick and Anna Quan Wong will be our leaders in the coming year. They bring a great deal of energy and enthusiasm to the task, so we look forward to an even bigger, better senior center.

We look forward to seeing you at the meetings!

Sojourners

Tom and Maureen Wong

We are told that the Sojourners is the largest of the fellowship groups at First Chinese Baptist Church. We wonder why that is. Is it because we are the baby-boomers? Is it because we like to do things in groups? Is it because most of us are empty nesters and we long for company? We think it's a little of all the above and more.

The Sojourners enjoyed being together for another year of activities, fellowship, and stewardship. The retreat this past year was a repeat visit to Pajaro Dunes. Our 3-day event was by the ocean, misted with the salty spray and the cool seaside weather. Maybe it was planned, or maybe it was natural but we gravitated to the "food cabin" to stay warm. One of our first activities was watching the movie "The Bucket List." In the movie, the two main characters when facing inevitable death; decided to make a wish list of all the things that they would like to do. What if we had to come up with our own bucket list? What will it have on it?

Although facing death is not a likely retreat subject, it did make us stop and think. It made us focus on the fact that we have this God given precious time—how we can spend it without regrets? With whom shall we share this time? If two people in our group had the same wish, doesn't it make sense to make your wish come true together?

As we welcome 2010, the Sojourners hope to check off at least one item from our bucket list. In fulfilling this wish, we pray that we will be witnesses to God's grace and blessings in our lives.

Women's Fellowship

Joy Shih Ng and Lea Wong

Our 10th annual retreat in March was on the theme of "Like it, Love it, Gotta have it: A New Look at the 10th Commandment." Led by our own Pastor Lauren Ng, the retreat theme focused on the sin of coveting, beginning with a fun "shopping spree" on Friday night, watching the movie "Envy" and ending with exploration of what it's like to store up treasures in heaven (Matthew 6:19-21). Guest Berkeley artist Jocelyn Bergen led the Saturday workshop on making handmade books, and our massage therapists Johanna Harman and Sevanti Henry once again offered healing comfort. A special 10th anniversary celebration on Saturday night featured several testimonies from participants on what the Women's Retreat has meant to them, with an anniversary cake complete with our logo and candles blown out by those who have been present at every retreat for the last ten years. Fifty-four women of all ages participated in the retreat at San Damiano in Danville.

In 2009 we brought back the popular Saturday brunches at members' homes with time for food, conversations, and discussions on themes relevant to today's Christian women.

We are grateful for all the women who have shared their hearts and homes for our gatherings, for the support of Pastors Lauren and Chris, and the love of God who brings us all together in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Women & Brothers' Society

Helen Poon, translated by Wendy Lin

2009 came to the end without notice. Thanks to God for blessing us all from the beginning to the end.

This year we donated to the operating cost of “Chinese Today,” supported the FCBC Mission Committee and helped Mrs. Lucia Ren whose home was on fire. We brought a microwave oven for her new home. We prayed for other brothers and sisters in need too. We give special thanks to Mr. David Wong who had been leading the Bible study group for years. May God bless him and his family, and give them peace. Thank God for Anna Ng who has been leading and teaching the Bible study and for Steven Ng who has been leading us in singing hymns and giving praise to God. May God bless their family.

Xplorers Fellowship

Norman Cheng

In line with the church theme of “Evangelism and Fellowship“ and our 2008 retreat, Xplorers were challenged to build stronger and deeper “community” bonds with others and with each other through the rough and tumble year of 2009.

A few highlights:

- Learning about the importance of family and the need to encourage and support one another in our extended church family
- Taking time out of our busy lives to discuss “Balance in One’s Life” with Wes Chan at our retreat
- Spending time in fellowship, worship and a hot pot dinner with Koinonia
- Participating in the “Live In Harmony” all church music and “Joyful Noise” praise events
- Working together to prepare food for the Easter Baptism reception
- Serving at the S.F. Food Bank and giving donations to the Hamilton Family Center
- Discussing and praying about our “mission fields” with friends from Seattle Cornerstone Church
- Supporting the Thailand Missions trip that was attended by Xplorers: Kenley Mew, Peggy Mew, Joyce Ng, Jon Ng, and Christopher Chin
- Welcoming 2009 Xplorer babies: Ayla to Stacey and Chris Chan, and Teah to Norman and Rose Cheng

Hebrews 10: 23-25

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Zion

Mamie Zhu

We are thankful that God has led us to learn how to become a faithful servant according to His purpose. We all experienced different challenges in our lives. However, we were willing to learn how to obey, and act in God's word with a humble heart. We had a retreat in December led by Shirley Ngai when we reflected on the year and shared what we had learned in our Christian journey.

In our first half of the year, we focused on discipleship. Luke Kwan led us in a series of training sessions that was related to sharing personal testimony and using a biblical way to share the gospel with others. Shirley Ngai also led us in a Bible study every month at her house. In the second-half of the year, we focused on leadership. Each of us had the chance to lead a fellowship program at least once. In 2010, we will pay more attention to the fellowship's format so that it will be suitable for both our existing members and new friends. We will also become a Bible study-based fellowship with a focus on the "Practical Christian Life."

Fellowship Challenges: In 2009, we thought about reaching out to college students. We brainstormed ideas and made plans to outreach the students of San Francisco City College. However, we realized that it might not be suitable to do outreach at the time. We realized the significance of building a strong bonding with Christ before we could do the outreach. Also, enriching our relationship with Christ is precedent to building a strong connection among a spiritual group. Most of our members graduated from college and a few are very close to completing their studies. Because of this, we are also transforming into a young adult fellowship.

Prayer Requests:

- New direction of our fellowship
- Looking for new adviser
- Fellowship challenges
- Challenges and difficulties in our career

Special thanks to Shirley Ngai, Lisa Chau, and Luke Kwan

