

三谷恩泉

Stream of Blessings



三谷基督徒會堂
CCIC-TRI VALLEY

第三期新年號

2011年1月

展望與挑戰

❖ 吳建智

立光易逝，轉眼間我們出來植堂已經有 16 個月了，這一路走來有歡笑，也有眼淚，弟兄姊妹同心合一，以愛心來服侍人和服侍教會。我們從走出信心的第一步，到如今逐漸可以站立起來，一切都是神的恩典。我相信在 2011 年，神要更多賜福，讓我們更加經歷神的作為。

在財政上，我們從一月起開始與北區母會分開，在接下來的幾個月裏，我們將會建立自己的會計系統，日後所有的收入支出獨立。建立這些，是需要時間及更多人力的投入。

目前，對三谷弟兄姊妹的挑戰，是否有足夠的奉獻，可以支持教會獨立後的運作、及建堂的龐大經費？在過去的一年裡，我們曾經洽購過一些認為適合的建築物業，但神沒有成就，我們需要學習等候的功課；同時，我們也經歷了神的恩典，建堂基金出現突破，至今已有 113 萬的建堂奉獻，這一切都是來自神的豐富預備。在新的一年里，我們祈求神繼續給我們智慧與耐心，來尋求神的心意，而我們如何運用這筆基金和尋找合適的物業，將是我們的一大挑戰，其結果將會對教會在 2012 年的增長有很大的影響。

我們來到 Tri-Valley 植堂的異象，就是讓更多的華人能認識耶穌基督，進而建立基督化的家庭；在過去的日子，有不少的慕道朋友來到我們當中，特別是在星期五的家庭小組人數一直增加，他們的孩子參加 AWANA 或是青少年的 IMPACT 團契，相信他們能感受我們的愛心，和熱誠地與他們建立密切關係。如何來收割成熟的莊稼，又是我們另一項挑戰，我們正期待著有更多的新人和孩子加入三谷大家庭。

教會的組織、聚會的場所需要時間來建立，而個人的靈命也是如此。當神把各樣的挑戰擺在我們面前時，這些不但是教會的挑戰，也是對每個弟兄姊妹的挑戰。或許新的一年神要我們嘗試新的服侍崗位、參加短宣隊、或是在金錢的奉獻上要有更多學習；從來沒有教過 AWANA 或 Youth 的，也許神在挑戰你和我，來參與孩童和青少年的事工。我深信在這所有挑戰的背後，都有神的美意，在過程中我們能經歷神的同在，到最後我們將領受神的福氣。盼望到今年底，我們都可以來分享在 2011 年所領受的挑戰和經歷的恩典。



按立長執

長老：
吳建智弟兄
蕭德謙弟兄

執事：
馮鑄弟兄
麥美玲姊妹
傅玉雲姊妹
梁慧儀姊妹



在豐恩中站立



薛忠勇

新生命在母腹中從受精成孕，到胚胎發育至出生，一般需要九個多月。一個出生的嬰兒從割斷臍帶開始，到斷了母乳；從在地上四肢爬動，到能以雙腳站起來行走，正常亦要一年的時間。新生命的孕育與成長需要足夠的時間讓其成熟發展，若果勉強催生或因故早產，日後將會造成許多發育不良的危險，同樣道理，一個新教會的產生與發展也是如此。

感謝神！三谷新堂自 09 年 9 月出生至今約一年半，一直在經歷不同方面的成長，邁向獨立。首先我們在去年四月正式登記立案，十一月又獲聯邦政府批准 501(c) 免稅資格，十二月初又按立了長執領導團。今年初已在銀行開設戶口，目前正積極進行購買自己的責任保險，進一步要考慮從母會接回處理同工薪金福利及其他相關等雜務。現因只得一位全時間同工及沒有聚會辦公的永久郵址，三谷從斷奶到站立行走的過程中雖不時有掙扎，但畢竟仍為自己能漸漸成長獨立，不成為母會的負荷而感到欣慰。在邁向行政與財政的獨立的軌道上，三谷比起前幾所拓殖的會堂似乎發展得較快，這也是神特別的恩典。

在建堂奉獻方面，三谷更是經歷了神豐厚的恩典。因經濟蕭條，商業樓價大跌，長執同工很想把握機會購買永久會所。為了加強購買實力，我們希望能及早籌得 180 萬現金，另外貸款 120 萬。雖然北區母會及其他會堂均落力支持，但為了讓本堂肢體學習建立“ownership”，三谷呼籲會友於去年底能捐獻 35 萬的現金目標。感謝神！結果我們三個月內共籌得 37 萬，超過所想所求，信心大增！「耶和華豈有難成的事麼？」(創 18:14)

過去數月神藉不同的人的奉獻來鼓勵三谷，讓我們信靠「神必供應」。先是有人奉獻了一個足金的十字架，特定是為三谷建堂之用。此外有一位曾在北區聚會的長者，今雖已遷到別州定居，卻因聽到三谷植堂的消息而特別寄來一筆款項。另一位長輩也受神感動，不惜將大數目的積蓄拿來捐獻給三谷。還有收到不知是在那會堂聚會信徒所寄來的捐贈，及數位牧者的奉獻鼓勵。更難得的是三谷本堂某家庭將一筆「掏心」巨額全奉獻為建堂之用。聖靈的感動奇妙，父神的恩典浩大！

但願三谷不會辜負神豐厚的恩典，今後能不斷「在我們主耶穌基督的恩典和知識上有長進」(彼後 3:18)，並且「長大成人，滿有基督長成的身量」(弗 4:13)。





❖ 馮鑄

「愛中沒有懼怕」 — 與何大哥滑雪記

我終於與何大哥一起上了 Mt. Lincoln！多年前在 CCIC-NV 聚會時，我們得知何大哥一家也喜愛滑雪，而且 Sugar Bowl 是他家常去的滑雪場之一。聽過他們的推薦後，我們就去試了一次，並從此與這個滑雪場有了緣，每次去 Lake Tahoe 一定會去 Sugar Bowl 玩一整天。Sugar Bowl 的雪道大部分是藍道，但有很多的選擇和變化。容易的和其他雪場的綠道差不多（如果你想有達到藍道的水準「號稱」，Sugar Bowl 應是你的首選），但難度較大的與他雪場的黑道可以比高低，其中一條道是 Mt. Lincoln。它的特點是高而長，其中有兩段類似黑道坡。對我這個「號稱」藍道的來說，每次下來仍是滿挑戰的。記得有一次我和孩子 Jeff & Julia 一起上 Mt. Lincoln。那天遇到大霧，下纜車後的第一個坡顯得特變的艱難。我當時只能看清我腳前幾公尺的地方，Jeff & Julia 在我眼前很快地逐一消失在雲霧中。因看不到前面的路，加上雪道基本是冰，特別滑，心裏馬上就產生了巨大恐懼，不敢往下滑。這時我聽到好像是 Julia 的哭叫聲，「Daddy, Daddy, where are you?」不知女兒發生什麼事，出於父親之責我只有硬著頭皮向下滑。連滾帶爬地滑到坡底，看到了女兒——她沒事，只是因看不到我而害怕。之後，我與何大哥也分享這段經歷。他也一直覺得 Mt. Lincoln 具有挑戰性，所以我們約定有機會一起去攻克 Mt. Lincoln。

我對此約定一直很盼望。因我相信這一定是個很好的相互鼓勵、支持，共同戰勝挑戰經歷。我有過不少闖雪場黑道的經歷。我每次成功滑下去，不是跟兒子女兒一起，就是我們跟朋友在一起。我獨自一人走黑道時常有恐懼感。記得有一次因為太害怕，我卸下

雪板，走到坡地，覺得很失敗。但後來發現，那個坡並沒有想像那麼難，主要是心理障礙，而不是能力的問題。由此，我聯想到我們生活中遇到各樣的困難和挑戰，當我們試圖獨自一人擔當這一切時，我們會有太多的恐懼和不安，而且沒有成功的把握。感謝神！我們因為成為祂的兒女，便有信心和力量去面對人生各樣的困難和挑戰。更感謝神賜給我們生活在周圍的弟兄姐妹，並且命令我們要彼此相愛。因著耶穌的愛，我們可以在通向天國的路上彼此幫助和鼓勵。我們每一個人難免跌倒，但因著我們彼此扶持，可以再次站立，繼續向前。

我與何大哥一起上 Mt. Lincoln 那天，天氣晴朗，風也很小，加上今年的雪很厚，在纜車上我感覺輕鬆，心想今天應該沒有什麼太大的挑戰。但是一下纜車我就傻眼了——上次的大霧、似冰面的雪道是沒有了，但取而代之是很深、很窄的 Mogul（小雪丘），只有用很小的“S”形式滑行，沿著 Mogul 之間的溝才能下去。我從來沒有走過這樣的 Mogul，而且用這樣小的 S 形式根本走不出來，又是新的挑戰！但是靠著我們的信心，彼此的鼓勵、打氣，我們都安全地滑到坡底。

我們在生活中一定會遇到新的困難和挑戰，讓我們一同持守神的道，靠著在主裏彼此的相愛，扶持和建立，一同去面對明天的困難和挑戰。



Youth Ministry

God's Transforming Power

❖ Jeff Koh

My wife Angela and I came over from CCIC North Valley as part of the church plant a little over a year ago, and I am one of the youth counselors now at Tri Valley. What a fabulous and challenging year it has been for everyone. Since we do not have a permanent church site where we can call home yet, everyone has to "live out of our luggage" sort to speak. This includes carrying and setting up the sound equipment every week, bringing all the AWANA boxes every Friday night, practicing and rehearsing for worship at odd hours and places to accommodate everyone as well as opening up private homes for home group and youth meetings (adults and youth alike). Thus far, we've not heard or seen anyone complain about the hassle as well as the extra work involved. Everything always seems to work out well in sunny as well as rainy days....Praise The Lord!

I want to mention three individual youth whom I will identify as Boy X, Y and Z. I also encourage Tri Valley members to talk to their parents, pad these three kids on their backs and let them know that they are doing a wonderful job growing closer to God and continue to seek after God with all of their hearts.

Boy X is someone that came over from CCIC-NV with his parents. I recall he did not have too many friends there and he would always seem very rebellious (e.g. sitting down on the chair while everyone else was standing up during worship) and unapproachable. His parents felt that by coming to Tri Valley, perhaps God would transform him into a more amiable and Christ-loving kid. Wouldn't you know it, within just a few months of coming to TV, Boy X became the main attraction with the youth at TV and he even got baptized by the end of 2009. Since that time, Boy X has continued to be a good example to the other kids such as being the first to stand up during worship instead of sitting down (even though he is not a good singer...yet :-). He is always the first one who is willing to help out where and whenever there is a need.

However, Boy X got himself into some trouble recently which was not a good example for the other kids, but we are thankful that he was able to realize it and correct the problem in a timely manner. As we all know, no one is perfect even as baptized Christians. We all still make mistakes but the important thing is that we do not make the same mistake and are willing to seek God's forgiveness so that we can live a life that is worthy of God. Lastly, I would hope that Boy X try to remember to bring his bible to church more often and do less jive talking when possible. In so doing, he will be almost perfect as indicated in Matt 5:48, "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Boy Y is a talkative and inquisitive Pleasanton boy that his mom would always ask me if he was causing any trouble in the youth group at the end of our meetings. However, within the last year, God has really transformed Boy Y so that he does not "*conform to the pattern of this world but transformed by the renewing of the mind*" (Rom 12:2) in becoming a God-loving and seeking individual. He was baptized at the same day as Boy X back in December of 2009. Since then, he not only committed himself to serve on the worship team but is so talented that he taught himself (may have received some free lessons from other youths as well) how to play the electric guitar, drums, cajon and other musical instruments. He is now giving musical lessons to other kids *free of charge*. In addition, God has really taught him how to pray as he does such a fabulous job in leading prayers during worship that really comes from the heart. Boy Y still likes to kid around, act silly at times and yes, he still loves to talk.... :-) As with Boy X, I would like to see Boy Y remember to bring his bible to church more often. I recall one of the Sunday school teachers asked him recently why he did not bring his bible on Sunday, he pointed to his head and indicated that he memorized it all in his head ☺. I truly believe that his parents are also seeing how God has transformed their son as his mom no longer asks me now whether his son is still causing any trouble after our meetings ☺.

Boy Z was a very shy and soft spoken boy when he first came to CCIC-TV youth group. Due to his shyness along his gentle passive nature, a lot of kids would make fun of him and make him feel bad at times. I believe his parents also felt a change from their old church environment might be helpful and allowing him to have a fresh start. Within the last year, we have seen tremendous transformation taking place with Boy Z. He is actually a very smart and talented boy. He plays the piano very well and participates actively during Sunday school and bible studies. Boy Z has gotten more and more respect from other kids as he recently just won the *Geography Bee Contest* from his school. Therefore, if you need to know where any place in the world is located, just go ask him. I've asked him a few hard ones myself and he got them all right. He is the "real thing"!

Boy Z always remembers to bring his bible to church (unlike Boy X and Y) and is well versed with his bible. In addition, his favorite seat for the Sunday worship service is on the first row. He loves to play games and be involved and interacts with all the other kids. Most of all, I believe that he now no longer feels as shy but is very comfortable as being part of the youth group. The only thing that stood out with Boy Z is that sometime he would go off into a space of his own (e.g., splitting a plastic cup into even slices or cleaning the communion cups instead of throwing them away.) I recall that at times, he would mention occasionally that some kids from school would still make fun of him because of his shyness and soft spoken nature. However, my recommendation for him was to read Matt 11:28-30 which says: *"Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."* Therefore, with his soft nature along with his gentle and humble heart, he will do just fine as he continues to be molded and transformed by God.

God is also working and transforming other youth from our church which we do not have the opportunity to mention here. Our youth group is by no means perfect and still needs to grow and work together in the coming years. We will need your continuing support and prayers. One particular challenge is that many kids only attend fellowship on Friday nights, but are unable to come on Sunday for one reason or another. Our prayer is to encourage and invite their parents to come and join us for Sunday worship and learn more about our wonderful and loving God.

Can you find Boy X, Y, Z in these pictures?

Hints:

Boy X is a football player as well as star wrestler on his High School team.

Boy Y is always cheerful, energetic and plays the cajon during worship.

Boy Z is shy and gentle among his peers.



impact
YOUTH MINISTRY



Reflection of the Christmas Play 2010



❖ Angela Koh

Praise the Lord that CCIC-TV has been planted in the Tri-Valley area (Pleasanton, Dublin and San Ramon) for just over a year now. Brothers, sisters, youth and even children alike have gotten used to the routine of not having a permanent place where we can call home yet. However, everyone is coping well with the need to make sure all the preparations, equipment set-up as well as logistics are all set and in place prior to any meetings and events. God has shown His grace and mercy upon our new church and we are certain that one day God will provide us with a permanent place where we can all gather and worship Him in the Tri Valley area.

Speaking of events, I want to share the joy of the past 2010 Christmas celebration with North Valley CCIC, our mother church. Since Tri Valley did not have the facility or man-power to prepare for our own Christmas play, we took the great opportunity by having the entire North Valley church come to support us - Mandarin and Cantonese adult choirs, children choir, Coffee Talk and talented youth actors!

Although the weather was not cooperating that day, it was raining and cold. However, all the props, stage setup logistics and the rehearsal all went successfully without a hitch. By the time we started at 7 pm, I was amazed that we had a full house in the auditorium at Pleasanton Middle School. The stage background and wardrobe design were spectacular with a lot of details and hard work that went into them. It was very touching to see how brothers and sisters joyfully greeted each other like welcoming a close family member who has been away from home. Joy and happiness filled the air in the room and also reflected on everyone's face.

The beautiful unison voices from children's choir drew some cheerful smiles from the audience. The children and adult choir both chimed in at the right time to add to the fun-filled spirit of the play and made it so meaningful. The countless hours of rehearsal and practice from the cast were revealed in the play. The Christmas play not only touched the heart of the adults but the children as well. To my surprise, there were two kids who sat quietly in front of me throughout the entire play.

Each actor did a wonderful job of playing the role as the meaning of Christmas was unfolded in a live manner. The three angels were so adorable. They had the best costume design in the play. All of them did such a wonderful job in playing their respective roles that they had the whole audience glued to their seats throughout the whole play. All in all, I would say that everyone had a great time and was able to learn a bit more about the true meaning of Christmas.

After the play, Pastor Eugene gave a brief but powerful message on the meaning of Christmas which touched many people. Another highlight of the night was the 40 feet long buffet style table filled with all kinds of delicious finger food, snacks, fruits and drinks prepared by many families. Thanks to Sister Jane for coordinating this important food preparation as it would not have been the same if there were no refreshment that evening. ☺

As we try to wrap up the night, everyone joyfully chipped in their big and small efforts to tidy-up and clean the facility. Even little Ethan helped out with the big broom to clean up the place ☺.

What an amazing night it was to see true Christian love and dedication from everyone to make this event so successful. May all the glory be given unto God!





若提到基督教就不能不說耶穌了，早期來華傳教的西方傳教士把「Jesus」翻譯為「耶穌」，其中的「耶」與漢語中的「爺」諧音，指父親，對應漢語音節「Je」；「穌」與「甦」同音，指復活，對應漢語音節「su」。漢語名字精闢的概括了聖經中關於耶穌復活的情節。

我來美國也有一段時間了，從聖經和相關書籍中也得到了一些新的認識。神是天地萬有的創造者。在舊約創世記中，神創造了宇宙萬物，在第一天創造了光，把光暗分開了，稱光為晝，暗為夜；在第二天創造了空氣；在第三天創造了土地海洋、植物；在第四天創造了日、月、星辰；在第五天創造了動物；並在第六天創造了人；第七天祂休息了，並定為「聖日」，日後也讓祂的百姓記念這「安息日」。

神對人百般愛護，但是由於人的犯罪墮落，被趕出

了伊甸園。由此人因罪而與神隔絕，但是神並沒有因此棄絕人。

神有祂的救贖計劃，將自己唯一的兒子耶穌差到人間拯救世人。耶穌便是人們與神修復關係的橋樑，人們可以通過耶穌來到神面前。耶穌和祂的門徒不辭勞苦傳福音，勸說世人信主悔改，但是由於猶太人的驕傲自大和當時的政治形勢，耶穌果如聖經預言，在受盡凌辱後釘死在十字架上。但是基督教的傳播並沒有因此而中斷，相反因為祂第三日後復活，有更多的人信耶穌，追隨祂的腳步；最終康士坦丁宣佈成為羅馬國教，整個帝國都在朝拜耶穌。

說到基督教的傳播，就不能不說它與中國的情節了。基督教於公元 635 年傳入中國，當時正值唐太宗的盛唐時期，太宗對異國文化兼收並蓄，為基督教建立了「大秦寺」，從此基督教便在中國傳播長達千年之久，薪火相傳至今。在鴉片戰爭中，個別教徒為了個人利益而充當侵略者的工具，這其中有外國人也有中國人，但這只是教徒的個人素質太低，不能籠統地說基督教如何如何。

基督教作為世界上的三大宗教之一，影響著世界十幾億人的生活，越來越多的人信耶穌，加入基督教，追隨耶穌，為自己的靈魂找到歸宿。不僅如此，隨著知識的增長，也越來越多的人可以公正客觀地看待基督教，相信他們會在自己信仰的道路上做出正確選擇。



恩雨點滴

感謝神...

- 十一月「鞋盒運動」共籌得 135 個 shoeboxes
- 三谷於感恩節與北區聯合的退修會共有二十多個家庭參加
- 十二月受浸者：祝優根
- 十二月十八日於 Pleasanton Middle School 舉行的「聖誕音樂話劇」約 270 人參加
- 三谷本堂會友於十二月底共籌得 37 萬建堂基金，超出了原定 35 萬的目標
- 主日聚會順利與 Sheraton 旅館續約至今年九月底
- 植堂後同工們帶領了以下慕道朋友決志：畢臘梅、常青、李敏雲、黃志洋、崔晟、李俊旭、錢鶯
- 最近主日成人崇拜不斷有新來賓

主日聚會

崇 拜： 9:45 - 11:00 AM

主日學： 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

禱告會： 1:30 - 2:30 PM

Four Points by Sheraton
5115 Hopyard Road
Pleasanton, CA 94588



週五聚會： 8:00 - 10:00 PM

兒 童 AWANA

青少年 IMPACT

Pleasanton Evangelical Free Church
6900 Valley Trails Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94588



建堂進展：

另需貸款
\$120 萬

急需籌得現金目標
\$180 萬

現已籌得總額
\$113 萬

三谷呼籲本堂會眾於三月底前捐獻 30 萬，其餘現金之差額乃仰望天父的供應。

倘若各會堂肢體心有感動，願意奉獻支持，可以將款項寄到北區，抬頭寫 CCIC，並註明「三谷建堂」。若願意借出私人貸款，亦歡迎與我們洽商。三谷盼望能給予我們機會到貴堂分享報告，請聯絡建堂同工吳建智弟兄：
mileswu@yahoo.com.

聯絡電話: (925) 963-6688

www.ccictv.org

主編：陳海山

插圖/排版：薛忠勇、麥美玲

我們的異象：

藉神的道，在三谷地區建立基督化華人家庭，薪火傳承耶穌的愛與教訓。

To **build up** Chinese Christian families in Tri-valley with the Word of God, and to **pass down** the love and teachings of Jesus through generations.