



SHA TIN CHURCH

Church On Fire

S.K.H. Tsang Shiu Tim Secondary School, Wo Che Estate.

Rev. Dale Hanson

*Priests &
Ministers:
All the
people of
God*

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***The Fruitful Useful
Joyful Life In Jesus***

Advent 3

14th December 2008

We welcome everyone to our service, especially those who are newcomers today. Please make yourself known to us and sign the Welcome Folder which is downstairs on the Welcome Table. We run a Children's program every Sunday – details inside. A Crèche (Rm 4) is available. Please ask an usher if you want to know where these are located. Also you are invited to share Refreshments with us downstairs after the service.



-----**THE SHATIN CHURCH VISION**-----

CHURCH ON FIRE

- **passionate worshippers**
- **committed disciples**
- **an international church making a difference for the Kingdom of God**



BULLETIN & SERMON (MP3) AVAILABLE AT
www.shatinchurch.org.hk

Prepared by:

Eva Ma

14th December 2008
ADVENT 3
Holy Communion

Greeting & Welcome

Brent Hauser

Opening Praise

Here I am to worship
Jesus, what a beautiful name
Mighty to save
Shout to the Lord

Jon Keetly

Confession and Assurance of forgiveness

*May Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith,
pardon us and set us free from all our sins,
strengthen us to do his will,
and keep us in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Words of Knowledge and Encouragement

Song

It's Your Blood that cleanses me

Declaration of Faith

I Believe

The Apostles' Creed

Greeting of Peace

Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

Young Peacock

Collection of Tithes and Offerings

How Great is Our God

(Communion assistants come forward: Brent H., Vanaja J., Christine I., Linda T., Lori W.)

Offertory Prayer

Thanksgiving Prayer

Disciples' Prayer

Holy Communion

Amazing Love
Let Your Presence Fall

Post Communion Prayer

Blessing

Announcements

Intercessions

Brent Hauser

Sermon

Something to shout about

Dale Hanson

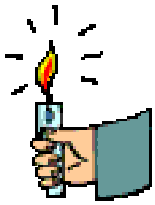
Thanksgiving

Dismissal

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Reprise

SIGN UP TODAY FOR CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT AT MARANATHA HOUSE



We will have our Carols by Candlelight at Maranatha House on 24th December again this year. Still remember the wonderful experience lighting the candles under the starry sky last year. Come and join us to have fellowship, carols and fun on the silent night. Mince pies and light refreshment will be served.

Date: 24th Decemebr

6:30pm: Buses will leave from Chik Wan Street

9:00pm: Return buses will be driven you back to Tai Wai and Shatin

The registration will be closed TODAY, please sign up to reserve a seat on the coach.

Don't forget our Christmas Day service at 10am December 25th and the Baptism service on December 28th at 10am.



IMPORTANT PRAYER FOCUS – FRIDAY 2ND JANUARY

As a church let us commit 2009 into God's hands – we meet here at TST school at 7.45pm on Friday January 2nd room G02. If this is the only meeting you are able to come to all year this is the one to be at!

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday December 21st Advent 4

“Children's Nativity” and City Wide Christmas Caroling after service

Wednesday December 24th

“Carols by Candlelight” Maranatha House at 7.30pm

Thursday December 25th

Christmas Day Service at 10am

Sunday December 28th

Morning Worship with Baptisms



NOTE: Please do not bring any food, snacks, or drinks (except water) into the Church Hall or any classroom or onto the school sport playground. According to the school rules, Food & Drinks are only allowed in the Covered Area downstairs.

LUNCH WITH THE McCanns TODAY

Brad and Mable McCann will be with us at Shatin Church TODAY before leaving Hong Kong on 22nd December.

We thank God for their service here and pray for His blessing as they move on. They hope to meet up with friends at Shatin church for lunch today.

CONSIDERING BAPTISM?



We will be holding our next baptisms on Sunday 28th December. Please get in touch with Dale if you are considering baptism; baptism is the mark of Christian belonging and something that all followers of Jesus Christ are called to receive. If you have been thinking of taking this step take the chance to talk with Dale about it!

AFETERNOON SERVICE ON 18TH JANUARY, 2009

Due to School Parents' Day, our service on 18th January, 2009 will change to 3:00pm.

FINANCE UPDATE – NOVEMBER 2008 – please pray and be guided in giving.

If our current pattern of giving continues to the end of the year we will face a shortfall of approximately HK\$160,000 which represents about 7.5% of our total budget for 2008 of HK\$2,154,000.

We give thanks for all that has been given to Shatin Church this year. We ask you to pray for God's provision for what is still needed and that He will guide all of us how we should give to Shatin Church and beyond.

Giving beyond.....

We are aware of an urgent need of one of our mission partners, Carol Schrecker, to restore the water supply to her district in Romania. The total cost is in the region of HK\$6000 and we are looking to supply this to an exceedingly needy community. You can get more details from Susie Young and information about the ministry in our bulletin that is available on our web site at

<http://www.shatinchurch.org.hk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2008/10/081102.pdf>

And Giving beyond money.....

Please give above all else *your prayer* for the life and mission of the church. I want to highlight the prayer meeting on January 2nd – we can stand together in prayer as we enter 2009 under the hand of God. Also consider how you can give of your time and energy – we need people to serve in many ways, set up crew, welcoming, music, PowerPoint projection, Alpha leading and catering.....and many other areas.

COLLECTION OF THE NEW ROSTER COPIES

The new roster for Dec 08 – Jan 09 has been prepared. Ministry team members please collect a copy from the information table after the service.

CITYWIDE CHRISTMAS CAROLING 2008 ON 21ST DECEMBER

Thank you for all your support to the Christmas outreach event on 21st December at Ma Wan Park. Registered members please remember to meet at 12:30pm next Sunday after the morning service. Please bring a picnic lunch with you. Please note that will leave Ma Wan Park at 5:30pm and return back to Shatin. Please call the Church office if there is any inquires.



The poster for the 2008 Citywide Christmas Caroling event features a central illustration of a white dove with its wings spread, flying over a stylized globe. The text on the poster provides the following details:

- 2008 Citywide Christmas Caroling**
- 21 Dec, Sunday, at all 12 venues:**
 - 9pm: Opening and Special programs
 - 4pm-5pm: Harbour-side Caroling
 - 8pm-10pm: Special programs continue at Cultural Centre and Avenue of the Stars
- 22-23 Dec at Cultural Centre and Avenue of Stars**
 - 9pm-10pm: Non-stop Special programs
- Everyone is welcome to join!**
- Please wear Red Top and Red Caps to this event!**

At the bottom of the poster, contact information is provided: Enquiry: 2581 411 (HKCCCU) / 2550 4548 (Citywide Renewal), Website: www.hkcccu.org.hk / www.cityrenewal.com.hk, and Co-organizers: CHRISTIAN CHURCHES OF HONG KONG IN UNITY.

PRAYERS FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.



Continue to pray for the life and witness of Shatin Anglican Church over the Christmas and New Year period.

Pray that we will welcome guests and newcomers to our services at this time and that we may all appreciate something more of the “mystery of the Word made flesh” in Jesus birth at Bethlehem.

Pray too for modern day Bethlehem, surrounded by an Israeli security barrier life there is almost impossible for its residents. Many Christians have left Bethlehem to live elsewhere because of the difficulties and threats of violence.

Pray for the present day cities of Bethlehem, Nazareth and Jerusalem that as we hear the Christmas story this year may we remember to pray for the peace of the Holy Land

[Isaiah 9 verses 6 & 7] *“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end.”*

We pray for the city wide carolling in Hong Kong on the 21st December.

Ask God to use this united witness to speak powerfully in to many lives in Hong Kong.

We pray for our own visit to “The Ark” that we may find ways to share the love of Christ with those around us.

We continue to pray for the effects of the global economic crisis, remembering especially those who face the pressure of unemployment and our leaders, that they may make wise decisions for the good of all that honour God.

KINGDOM KIDS

The programme on Sundays start at 10:00am with Worship in the hall before we go downstairs to G02 to learn more about Virtues and Values. The children meet in one large group on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month and in Small Groups on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. We need to know the ages of your children for small group allocation and your contact details (for obvious reasons).



We would really appreciate you joining us in praying for God's covering on our programme. We would like the children (and everyone) to enjoy what it means to be truly surrendered to God in every part of themselves and to live the life that God has prepared for them.

If you have any queries, please contact any of the Kingdom Kids leaders, our names are on the back of the bulletin.

In His Majesty's Service
The Kingdom Kids Team

REVELATION WARRIORS



Revelation Warriors is the Sunday Youth Program for 11-14 year old youths at Shatin Church. It is geared toward preparing youths for full participation in the Church community in worship & service. If you are 11 – 14 years old, come and join the RW's Sunday group meetings. Every 1st Sunday of the month we meet the whole morning starting at 10 a.m. The second Sunday, we serve as ushers followed by a group meeting. The third Sunday we join the service, and the fourth Sunday, we have a group meeting.

What do we do in RW's?

Praise & Worship...Ice breakers...Games...Refreshments...Bible Study...Testimonies...Sharing...Prayer

Dec. 14th Usher, small group (Pearl Chan)

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

MEN'S MONDAY GROUP

Time 7:55 to 9:30pm, Place: Monte Vista Estate, 9 Sha On Street, Ma On Shan.

Contact Brent Hauser at 9633-1665 or brent.hauser@gmail.com

It is not too late to join us! Come and discover (or rediscover) the sense of purpose and adventure that God intends for your life.

Dec 15: Being Advised of Adventure Busters (Part I)
Christmas Break

Jan 5: Being Advised of Adventure Busters (Part II)

Jan 12: One of History's Best Great Adventurers

Jan 19: Your Unique Design (Venue to be Announced)

Jan 26: Men's night out (Stay Tuned!)



CHINESE LADIES' BIBLE STUDY GROUP

MEET ON FRIDAY

Chinese speaking ladies Bible Study at Ma On Shan on Friday from 9:30am to 11:30am with optional lunch afterwards. If you are interested or if you know anyone that might be interested, please contact Susanna at 67774095. God bless!

OASIS

YOUNG ADULTS MEETING

Oasis meets at 8 p.m. every Wednesday night in SKH Tsang Shiu Tim Secondary School (hall stage). Please contact the Church office at 2694 9928 for further information!

PHILIPPINES FELLOWSHIP

PF MEETING

- 14 Dec. - Meeting at Maranatha (with Amy Udy)
- 21 Dec. - Christmas Lunch (With the Keeltys)
- 28 Dec. - Meeting at Maranatha (Christmas party & outreach)

SOLID ROCK

SOLID ROCK FOR YOUTH MEETS EVERY SATURDAY

Solid Rock at Maranatha House. The details are:

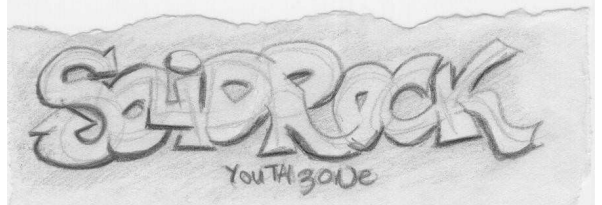
Hired Buses: Leave Chik Wan Street, Tai Wai near the KCR at 4:00 and 5:00 pm
Youth Band, please take the 4 pm bus for practice

Return: We will return to Shatin at around 9:00 pm

Bring: Money for McDonalds (or whatever) with your friends afterwards (**This is up to your parents.**)

Age Limit: Everyone age 11 to 18 (or still in high school) is welcome

Please visit~ <http://solidrock.hk>



NO PARKING

Please note that No Parking is allowed in the school grounds!

Thank you!

OUR GIVING

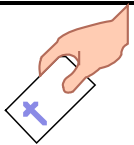
WE SUPPORT

Please pray for the people and organisations we support with Our Giving:

<i>China / Communist Asia</i>	<i>Hong Kong</i>	<i>International</i>
1) Generation Ministries (Asian Children)	4) Clarissa Gafoor (Crossroads)	9) All Nations Believers Church (Tanzania)
2) WEC International (Chinalink)	5) Christian Action (Domestic Helpers Program)	10) African Enterprise
3) Mekong Evangelical Mission (Laos & Thailand)	6) Christian Action (Chung King Mansions Service Centre)	11) Lifeway Bible Church Inc
	7) Street Kids Chai Wan	12) Dancalan Christian Fellowship
	8) Youth With A Mission (Sports Services International)	13) Carlos Choi (with St. Stephen's Society in Cebu)
		14) Christian Solidarity Worldwide
		15) Carol Schrecker (Romanian Gypsies)

We give away **15%** of all offerings to ministries outside of Shatin Church.

PLANNED GIVING



IF YOU ARE ATTENDING SHATIN CHURCH, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO JOIN IN "PLANNED GIVING" (WHERE YOU RECEIVE A NUMBER FOR ANONYMITY AND CAN GIVE BY BANK TRANSFER OR MONTHLY ENVELOPE). THOSE WHO REGISTER FOR PLANNED GIVING RECEIVE TAX RECEIPTS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR. IF YOU WISH TO GIVE TO THE LORD THROUGH THE CHURCH PLANNED GIVING SCHEME, THE FORMS ARE ON THE WELCOME TABLE DOWNSTAIRS. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL THE CHURCH TREASURER, KENNETH AU ON kenausling@yahoo.com OR CALL 9257 1675. CHEQUES SHOULD BE WRITTEN TO "SHATIN ANGLICAN CHURCH". PLANNED GIVING IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE. THANK YOU!

UNCLASSIFIED

Unclassified – these items have been placed by members of Shatin Church but their inclusion does not mean they are endorsed by Shatin Church in any way.

LOOKING FOR A NEW EMPLOYER!

Do you need someone to help you in housework or taking care of children? I am really good at these! My name is Cecilia Saplaco and I am from Philipppians. I have been working in Hong Kong as a domestic helper for 6 years. My employment contract will finish in early Feb, 2009 and I would like to look for a new employer. Please contact me at 9512 2790 for details.

URGENT REQUEST FOR A TEACHER FROM CROSSROAD!

Are you a teacher, or do you know a teacher, who might be interested in a holiday with a difference this Christmas break?

We are in very urgent need of at least one teacher who can fill a gap in our on-site school from now until January 21st (or longer if you wish!). A person with high school experience is preferable, however we would be open to hearing from any teacher who is available to come during this time period. As it is such short notice, we would not expect that teacher to have found financial support in advance of coming. We are also trying to fill the need for a longer term teacher.

If you aren't a teacher, please still take a moment to think through your friends and family who may fit the bill for the above positions. If you would like further information on what is involved, contact us for details. E-mail: enquiries@crossroads.org.hk

Crossroads

DTS WITH SPORTS OUTREACH

DTS, a discipleship training school, is a basic training course of YWAM, Youth With a Mission. It is a five-month program which includes both a lecture phase and an outreach. During DTS, you can deepen your relationship with God and be equipped to better tell about Him to others.

In January 2009 DTS here in Hong Kong, students can choose to focus on sports: in addition to normal DTS teaching they will learn the basics of sports ministry and during outreach can put it into practice in different sports.

The participants need to be at least 18 years old or have a high school diploma.

For more information please see www.ywamhongkong.org/dts or e-mail Sports Services International at ssi@ssi.corp.com.hk or call 2524 6057.

Notes for sermon on Isaiah Chapter 40 verse 1 -11

[Isa 40:1] Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

[Isa 40:2] Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

[Isa 40:3] A voice of one calling: "In the desert prepare the way for the LORD ; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God.

[Isa 40:4] Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.

[Isa 40:5] And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

[Isa 40:6] A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry?" "All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field.

[Isa 40:7] The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass.

[Isa 40:8] The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever."

[Isa 40:9] You who bring good tidings to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!"

[Isa 40:10] See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and his arm rules for him. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him.

[Isa 40:11] He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

The job of the preacher is to:

“ _____ the worried and _____ the comfortable”

God who _____

God who invites us to be _____

God who offers _____

God who is _____