

Shatin Family Life

A monthly newsletter by and for the Shatin Church family
November 2017

Milestones and Moments

Life is full of changes, special moments and events -- let's rejoice in them together!

- Miriam Sarah Man arrived 1:33pm on 18th October 2017! Both Xinge and baby are doing well.
- Congratulations to Ariel & Immalyn Pinero on their 3 year anniversary!
- Tina & Brian Hazlett are expecting twins on 24th November 2017
- Rebecca Lau & Samson To are getting married on 16th December 2017
- Congratulations to Carmen Li's daughter who just graduated from university!



Get to Know our Mission Partners

African Enterprise International

AE Australia Director, Ben Campbell



Shatin Church supports African Enterprise International as one of its 17 mission partners. AE has been evangelising the cities of Africa through mission, in word and deed, in partnership with local churches for 50 years. This month, we're hearing from Ben Campbell, AE Australia Director.

What's been happening with AE this year?

With great joy we can report to you that 166,271 people were reached through AE proclamation of Gospel at the Kampala 'Return to Jesus Mission'! In addition, 14,536 people made commitments for salvation, while 4,372 rededicated themselves to a life of service for Christ. Praise the Lord.

What have been some of AE's challenges this year?

AE Ghana has revised the date of their city wide mission to South Accra, 'The Year of God's Visitation', to 15 – 28 Nov. The delay in starting the mission is for a good reason: our Ghanaian Team Leader Bernard had stepped in to support the International Mission Director. Emmanuel tragically lost his wife Kunda to illness in August and was on compassionate leave.

How can we pray for you and/or AE?

Please join AE in praying for South Africa:

- Severe thunderstorms have lashed parts of South Africa in the last few days – please pray for safety.
- Pray that outreach plans for Pietermaritzburg, Cape Town, Durban, Bloemfontein, Port Elizabeth, George and Knysna would take place before year end, and bring many to Christ.
- Praise God for the Foxfires who hosted a youth camp and have reached thousands of youth this year!
- Pray for many applicants for the 2018 programme, as AESA start their selection process.
- Please pray for the AE International Missions Director who tragically lost his wife Kunda to illness in August and was on compassionate leave. Your continued prayers for Emmanuel, his 3 children and his sister-in-law Coco, who is caring for the children while he travels, would be appreciated.
- Please pray for open doors in all local churches in Kampala, for churches to be ready to provide for and love their new brothers and sisters in humble service of Christ.
- Pray for the three missions scheduled for the remainder of 2017: Ghana, Zambia and Ethiopia.
- Please pray for AE social action programmes to lift many vulnerable young girls out of desperation and poverty through training and discipleship throughout Africa (including Ghana, Ethiopia, Malawi, Rwanda).

Get to Know the Church Family

Warren Islip



Tell us a little about yourself and family. What brought you to HK?

My wife, Christine and I came to Hong Kong with our 3 children on 1 March 1997 (20 1/2 years ago). We came because I was offered a 3 year work contract as an Air Traffic Control Officer with the HK Govt. I was attracted to the opportunity to work at the very unique Kai Tak airport for 16 months, and then transfer to the brand new Chek Lap Kok airport, all within a single 3 year contract.

We love the vibrancy and 'aliveness' of Hong Kong ! It is a rapidly evolving city with changes occurring often in many different aspects of the city's life.

How long have you been a Christian? In what ways have you been loved by the church?

I became a Christian 42 years ago through a school holiday outreach programme run by Open Air Campaigners in Christchurch, New Zealand. The church has been a wonderful place for making friends of like mind, in a nurturing, caring and positive environment. From my early days as a young teenager to now, I have really enjoyed the fellowship of many different people from a wide variety of places and with varied experiences of the challenges and opportunities of the Christian walk.

You've served the church in a variety of ways; from the church committee to the music team. What are some of the experiences you've had?

We have been attending Shatin Church since April 1997. Serving in STC has allowed me to share my gifts with the body of Christ, and with many others who have also have a servant heart.

The biggest challenge of serving is my shiftwork. I often have to work on Sunday morning or Friday night (when we Links meeting), so I am unable to commit to serving as much as I would like. However, I know that God has given me this career and I thank Him for the opportunities I have to serve when I am available. It is an honour and privilege to serve the Lord, and my brothers and sisters at STC.

Few of us are real experts in our field of service, but as we offer up the gifts and talents we have been given by God to Him and His church, we are blessed in the knowledge that our service is in response to all that Christ has given us. So we should all serve in one way or another, as God leads us.

How has your spiritual walk with Jesus grown over this past year?

The Christian walk is a challenging one! There are many ways that the devil tries to move us away from God and His plans for us. I have been encouraged to be 'happy and content' over the past year or so, as it's so easy to look longingly at what others are or have or do, and get sidetracked from what God has called me to be and do. I have also been encouraged to not rest where I am, but strive to be more like Christ each day.

How can we pray for you?

Prayer is the 2nd most powerful force in the universe (after the power of God's love). Through prayer, the unlimited resources of Heaven are poured into every situation we bring before God's throne of Grace. Please pray that all of us, both blood relatives and in the wider family, will continue to know the saving power of God in our lives and have a strong desire to walk closely with Him each and every day.

Praying for the Church

*“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread **and to prayer.**” Acts 2:42*

Praise:

- For many new families and friends who have joined the Church Family Weekend Away.
- For our Ministry Apprentices Ariel and Pauline continuing the good work, and Mary joining the team.
- For many 1-2-1s going on throughout the church. Pray for us to be a church where all disciples are engaged in the discipling work of others.
- For many ministries that are going on in the church, particularly Women in Touch. Pray for the many people who have heard and responded to the gospel. Pray that these young Christians will be discipled.

Prayer:

- For the lessons during the Church Family Weekend to be put into practice; for each of us to read the Bible, pray, encourage others in friendship and even fast.
- For financial provision for the church; for the budget and planning for 2018.
- For the Christmas Bazaar Outreach; for it to reach many people who don't normally go to church, and for all the preparation.

The Exchange

Need a washer/dryer? Have something to sell or donate? Looking for a tutor, or can babysit? Looking for friends to join you for a social outing? Share your interests, skills and goods here!

This newsletter is put together by and for the Shatin Church family to share life and bless one another. If you have anything you'd like to share on this newsletter, please don't be shy and email mary@shatinchurch.org.hk.



Shatin Church