

Shatin Family Life

A monthly newsletter by and for the Shatin Anglican Church family

April 2018

Milestones and Moments

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

Congratulations to!



Jeremy & Karen Gillman who are expecting baby #2 at the beginning of July! Do pray for a safe and healthy pregnancy



Niels & EJ van de Kastele celebrate their 16th anniversary on 26th March

Get to Know our Mission Partners

Dancalan Mission

Shatin Church is sending a group of people at the end of March to serve the Dancalan Christian Church in the Philippines. Get to know more about this mission trip and how you can support the team below!



Where is Dancalan?

Dancalan is located in the southern part of the Philippines facing the Pacific Ocean. The Dancalan Christian Church was built after Shatin Church's mission trip there in 2007. This year's

team will return to serve the village people of Dancalan. Most of the residents are fishermen. The youth normally go to Manila to look for jobs after attaining their education. You can easily imagine how hard life is in the village, but people live simply and are happy.

What will the team be doing?

We will be leading a Vacation Bible School (VBS) to teach kids about "who Jesus is". We've done this before and we are excited to do it again. We will also be doing bible studies with the adults and encouraging the workers. We will not only build up the church there spiritually, but also in practical ways. Some of the practical ways include installing new solar lights in the village, as well as painting the church building. A total of eleven of us are going (four young people and seven adults from Shatin Church). If there is anyone who is interested he/she can still join.

How can we pray for the team and the trip?

- We are still in need financially for the Mission trip and some members are really tight on money
- Safety, protection, good health and smooth travel for all of us a team
- That God will open the hearts of the people in the village and neighboring places
- Team unity and submissive heart
- That Jesus will be the center of our hearts, mind, body and soul



We thank the Lord for this wonderful opportunity to serve Dancalan once again. Whatever we do whatever we say, do it for the glory of the One who gave it all!

*Do come and pray together for the mission trip at our next **Praise & Prayer meeting, 23 March!***

Get to Know the Church Family

Patti and David Hunter will retire sometime in June to Thailand. If you haven't already, please get to know this lovely couple before they leave!

How were you led to retire in Thailand?

Several years ago, we each realised that we did not want to return to the UK. Needless to say, we began asking the Lord for his leading - is what we are sensing, from the Lord? Where does God want us to be? Over a period of time, under His leading, we were drawn to Thailand.

We narrowed it down to two places, Chiang Mai or Hua Hin. We knew that there is about 7000- 8000 expats living in Hua Hin and in our visits, we began to see the need and have a heart to be part of His plan for this city. After much prayer and laying down our own wills and desires to Him, it finally became clear that Hua Hin was the place He had chosen for us. In our devotions, He has said we will be light in a dark place. Our hearts are just to be where He wants us be, reaching out to those He puts in our path.



Looking back on our lives, we saw His preparation in our early lives and for our future. We look on our past experiences as part of His plan in preparing us for continuing to live in a new international environment.

How will you spend your time in retirement?

Overall, it is too early to say, but initially, finding our way about the town, finding the best places to shop/eat, and hopefully, beginning to learn to speak some Thai. (Patti is looking forward to cooking in a Western kitchen with a lot of counter space!). We look forward to meeting our neighbours and establishing contact with expat Christians, and also being a witness to those who would otherwise have no other opportunity to hear about Him.

What have been some of your favourite memories of life in Hong Kong?

This church has been a profound blessing to us. I [Patti] have especially loved my time with the Philippines Fellowship, and we have both been blessed to be part of our amazing Links Group where we grow together. Also being able to work in a truly Christian School is the greatest privilege! Every year I [Patti] have a about 22- 26 precious treasures to disciple, love, and pray for. It has been a life transforming experience for me.

Lastly, we love Asia and the culture here in this part of the world, which means we have really enjoyed travelling, especially to Malaysia and Thailand.

We will miss you both greatly. How can we pray for you?

- For the Lord's wisdom between now and June regarding all that needs to be done in preparation.
 - Guidance in making contacts in the expat community in Hua Hin.
 - Leading in where to find fellowship with believers.
 - For us to really be a light in this dark place and that we stay strong and close to Him so that His name will be lifted up.
 - That we will know His protection and be sensitive, wise, and responsive to His leading.
-

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

Let's give thanks for...

- People growing in their faith and making gospel changes
- Last week's Annual General Meeting and the unity we have as a church

Let's pray for...

- Those getting baptized on Easter Sunday, that it would strengthen their faith and encourage the church
 - Us to work together towards the vision of a church that's 'growing in Jesus, sharing our lives and reaching the world.'
 - Boldness to invite friends and family who don't normally go to church during the Easter season
 - These services to preach the gospel clearly and faithfully
 - Our potential move to SKH Lam Kau Mow School -- getting approval, planning the logistics, building relationships, etc.
 - The right people to apply for the Ministry Associate Scheme
-

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