

# English Ministry Update

Toronto Chinese Baptist Church

also available on [www.tcbc.on.ca](http://www.tcbc.on.ca)

May 2010

30 Hour Famine 2010

Anna Kan

Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

Psalm 98:1-2

## Join forces with God?!

at TCBC'S Vacation Bible School 2010

### WHAT IS "HERO HEADQUARTERS" ABOUT?

This year's VBS theme, Hero Headquarters, is all about the unnamed heroes in the Bible. These Biblical heroes were often overlooked but through their small acts, God used them to do awesome things!!

### REGISTRATION REMINDERS

- Participant early bird deadline is on June 6th.

Final deadline is on July 4th.

- Volunteer deadline is on May 16th.

Interviews will take place during the first few weeks of June.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please pray that Hero Headquarters will reach out to the people that need God the most.

- Please pray that throughout the planning of VBS the Core committee will always remember to concentration on God.

\*\*Volunteer and participant registration are available at both entrances and online at <http://www.vacationbibleschool.com/tcbc>\*\*

The 30 hour famine this year is definitely an event that will not be forgotten. Planning for this event was very hectic but it all makes up after the whole event. Although there were fun and games such as man hunt in the church, the famine was based on the theme "LIVING versus WALKING" with God. Everyone that participated knows that it's not just about the fun—but it's about us and the actions we do and our relationship with our Father. The famine had very serious moments (YouTube "chicken a la cart") to make this group of youth SEE the problems in our world today.

A couple weeks ago, we had a bake donation table. The money raised from there was also used for homeless in our city. We used the money to purchase socks, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, water bottles, face cloths, bags and some food items. The youth also made encouraging cards to place inside the kits. Throughout the prayer walk, we all stepped out of our comfort zones to do what the "norm" don't do—stop and talk to the homeless. These conversations weren't just any "hi, have this, God loves you" but it's to share and know their story and know that we are praying for them. I led my prayer walk group to a school and we used sidewalk chalk to write encouraging messages down the whole path. During the walk, everyone had open eyes and open hearts. We all saw the problems and we are going to do something about it. So my favourite part of the famine was actually when the famine ended. A group of us left to go hand away some items we had left. However, we were so excited that we didn't really tell any counsellors the details which lead to flames but was extinguished because we were all safe. Through this prayer walk the six of us met four homeless people. It was such an amazing experience to hear their story how they got on the street, how thankful they are for us, how they are Christian. Emotions were crazy as John—one homeless man broke into tears as we were praying for him. I would love to share more about EVERYTHING but I'm afraid I would be typing up a 70 page essay for you to understand everything that happened in 30 hours. Feel free to talk to me and ask me more about the famine! Remember, change isn't always a bad thing.

### U of T Class Held in TCBC Sanctuary

Bosco Tung

On 23 February, I attended my 2 hour University of Toronto class titled "RLG203: Christian Religious Tradition" in the main sanctuary of TCBC. The lecture was on 'Christianity in China' by professor Thomas McIntire. For me, it was most definitely an interesting experience as I'm connected with TCBC through UofT Chinese Christian Fellowship and here I was having an academic lecture in seats I've sat in for sermons and baptisms.

The class itself explores the history of Christianity from a global perspective and that week the focus was China. My professor commented on how the Chinese have been in Canada since the 18th Century and that TCBC with its Romanesque Victorian architecture is an effect of the 1960s immigration. Then we spoke about contemporary China which is the 4th largest Christian population in the world (after USA, Brazil and Mexico) as millions of people were converted in a 30 year period. Most of the time was spent on the discontinuous story of Christianity in China in the Apostolic period, the Nestorian period, Jesuit period, Early Protestant period (mid-1600s-1807), Late Protestant period (19th Century - 1949) to the present with the many persecutions of Christianity found in between every period. It was most definitely an interesting experience to have as Reverend Wong, Byrne and Tam closed off the class sharing about their own experiences with China, TCBC, and why Chinese Churches grow both in China and here in Canada. Afterwards, we all headed downstairs for refreshments and had a great time meeting with members of TCBC as well as the pastors. Thank you TCBC for being a great host to our university class!"

Bosco is the Outreach Coordinator of UTCCF and is graduating in June with an 'Honours Bachelor of Art' double majoring in Philosophy and Religion. Congratulations Bosco!

## TCBC 2010 Grads

Congrats to TCBC 2010 grads (30 people!): Alison Wong (Psychology), Andre Donais (Education), Andrew Chan (Engineering-Mechatronics), Bonnie Lee (Life Sciences), Bonnie Xun, Bosco Tung (Religion & Philosophy), Christabelle Wong (Commerce), Isabelle Chiu (Education), Jacky Lam (Dentistry), Jaynelle Leung (Health/PhysEd/Education), Jennifer Wong (Life Sciences), Jenny Liu, John Zheng, Jon Fung (Physics), Katy Mok (Life Sciences), Kenneth Leung (Life Sciences), Mandy Ma, Manshun Tong (Commerce), Matt Li (Commerce), Matt Yip (Education), Michelle Yu (Pharmacy), Ming Khor (International Relations), Miriam Leung (Sociology/Equity Studies/Psychology), Nhi Long (Commerce-Centennial), Nik Hung (Business), Sabrina Wu, Sear Ho (Business), Steven Xu. Masters grads are: Evangeline Tam (Education- Masters) & Tuck-Voon How (Biomedical Engineering-Masters). God's blessings and guidance in your next steps.

Are you interested in teaching Youth Sunday School?

The Youth Sunday School department is looking for teachers or first time volunteers to assist with the Summer Curriculum in July / August. If you think God's given you the gift of scripture knowledge and are interested in sharpening your teaching skills this would be a great opportunity. If you would like further information about Youth Sunday School ministry contact Claudia Li - [claudlitang@gmail.com](mailto:claudlitang@gmail.com)

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## Peru Service/Mission Trip

Martin Tam

First off, thank you for supporting me on my service/missions trip to Peru. I am thankful for your prayers, thoughts, and monetary donations. It has been nearly a month since we were in the country of Peru, learning about Fair Trade coffee, sugar cane, and other goods. I am grateful for your patience, because University life (or college life as we would say in the states), has been very busy. I would like to summarize my trip as concise as possible because a lot occurred during our one week trip and educate you about Fair Trade.

In Peru, we toured the city of Lima for half a day, until we took a fifteen hour bus ride up the costal line passing by Piura to Montero. From there, our group took a bumpy bus ride to the village of Montero situated in the mountains next to a river which flowed through the village. Half of our group stayed in Hostels in the local village where we could only drink and brush our teeth from bottled water. In Montero, we met the farmers who used organic methods to grow coffee and sugarcane. Every day, we did a great deal of hiking, especially through muddied pathways, and up narrow stone stairs, to reach areas where they grow or process coffee and sugarcane. It also poured every day for one to two hours, which contributed to our haphazard hiking expeditions.

We heard the stories and pleas from the farmers who depend on Fair Trade for their very livelihood. Typical coffee production usually occurs when farmers grow coffee and have to sell their produce to a "middle man," who agrees to the purchase, but at an extremely cheap price. Fair Trade coffee cuts out the middle man, allowing a group of farmers to sell their coffee at a decent price. They are able to provide an education for their children, life and health insurance, and further education about the coffee growing and selling business. A farmer told us in Spanish that if the Fair Trade became non-existent, than it would be a bullet into his very heart. Fair Trade helps us be responsible consumers, because we care about the people involved in the production of the product.

Our trip was not only limited in learning Fair Trade growing business. We also painted a school in a local village near Montero, met and played soccer and Frisbee with school children, and toured the cities of Piura and a Monastery in Lima. The trip was not so much a "mission trip" but a learning and service experience. God has revealed us an entirely different world, beyond our comfy houses, to a world that is yearning for social justice and reconciliation.

Lastly, our team is still struggling in fundraising for the service trip that already occurred. We still need more donations to fulfill our goal. If each one of us raises \$400 we will be able to reach the desired amount. If you feel compelled by God to donate, please do so. Que Dios los bendiga! (God Bless You)

An update from our missionaries, Ted and Cecilia Paschke...

## A Different Kind of Club...

You may have seen tennis clubs, 4-H clubs, the Rotary Club, country clubs, investing clubs, rodeo clubs, and, now...

Last year, we wrote about the Bible Institute's once-a-year conference to inform and challenge our students about missions. It's great. But, we saw more was needed, an ongoing way to promote missions among our students all year. So, in October, we launched our student "missionary club". The aim is to encourage our students to "go" to another part of the world as missionaries, or to "give and pray to send others" as missionaries.

We've had six great months in the club. One speaker had worked and ministered in China, as a sort of self-supporting missionary. Then, a young Spanish man told of secretly doing evangelism in a closed Islamic country. And, a couple who did tribal work in Colombia explained Bible translation. Also, at our last meeting, Ted spoke on how to pick a mission with which to serve. This Friday, we'll view a film from New Tribes Mission.

The Lord Jesus declared, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." So, we're striving to help students find their place in missions. Raising up Latino believers to join the world missionary force is of key strategic importance to obeying Christ's command in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. An army of Latino missionaries is needed to help take the Gospel to the world. It's impossible to say it enough: our missionary work depends on you. We need you to join in our work through praying. And, we depend upon your financial generosity.

Please, pray for the following:

- For God's help as we work to help students plan Club activities, and as we mentor them in missions.
- For one of our students to follow through with his decision to be a missionary with Wycliffe Bible Translators.
- That more students commit themselves to finding their place in world missions, whether by "going", or "praying and giving funds." We want students to actually act upon the challenges we give them.
- For God's help to finish producing a course in theology for the Institute's distance education program.
- We thank God for the growing demand for the course materials since Ted began directing the department.
- For God's help to work with a Latino believer who wants to help distribute our courses widely.
- For additional financial partners for our missionary work. In 2009, we were \$394 undersupported each month.

----->>Answered prayer: A Christian couple is wonderfully letting us use their apartment while we report back to supporters in eastern Canada this summer.

Partnering with you in world missions,  
 Ted Cecilia