



# First Quarter Newsletter

Chinese Baptist Church of Greater Boston

Also available on [www.cbcbg.org](http://www.cbcbg.org)

## Real Freedom

Pastor Henry Mak

We came across this issue in our recent Bible study prayer meeting. God hardened Pharaoh's heart so that he did not let the Israelites break free from slavery. As such, it should not be counted as a sin of Pharaoh, but God's doing. I hereby sum up the opinions from Bible commentary and my own perspectives.

1. God predicted the hardening of Pharaoh's heart.
2. God allowed Pharaoh to harden his heart.
3. Pharaoh hardened his heart in the beginning. God's hardening of Pharaoh's heart only began at the time of the seventh plaque.
4. God intended to break the superstition of Egyptians, their practice of placing beetle shaped precious stone on the heart after death to release man from their guilt, so as to elude judgment. But, God hardened a man's heart to make them come to terms with their sins.
5. The sovereignty of God was demonstrated, to reveal His majesty and might so that man will revere Him. In spite of that, man still have the choice of repenting, to make God relent from sending down the disaster.

When we study the book of Romans, we can see the perspectives of Paul:

17 For Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth. 18 Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy,

and he hardens whom he wants to harden. 19 One of you will say to me: "Then why does God still blame us? For who is able to resist his will?" 20 But who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'" 21 Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use? 22 What if God, although choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath—prepared for destruction? 23 What if he did this to make the riches of his glory known to the objects of his mercy, whom he prepared in advance for glory— (Romans 9:17-23).

Some people have a negative view of this scripture. They found God tyrannical and unreasonable. Human are at the mercy of God, with no recourse. They are just a lump of clay. Their destiny is totally decided by God's will. Such is the mentality of sinners. Their rejection of God's sovereignty generates dispute and distrust of God. We must first assert that God is righteous, just, upright, gracious, abundant in love and flawlessly good.

The climax of God's creation is the creation of human beings in His image. God intended to share His abundant glory with man, let man manage the world created by Him. God also gave us a rational mind, so that we can be self-conscious, have a moral sense to do things according to our conscience. We also have creativity and the ability to appreciate beauty and attractive things. Through socializing, we can build true friendship. This is all because God Himself is love and we are



# First Quarter Newsletter

Chinese Baptist Church of Greater Boston

Also available on [www.cbcbg.org](http://www.cbcbg.org)

created in His image. God empowers mankind the ability to love God and each other. We also have a spiritual realm, rousing us to thirst for God. Therefore, human race is very unique in their ability to think, choose, create, love and worship.

In the process of God's creation, God saw that everything was good, in perfect harmony. By the providence of God, man has complete freedom to enjoy every good thing. Sadly, the ancestors of mankind made a wrong freewill choice in believing the word of the devil. They defied the word of God, resulting in exile from Garden of Eden. The image of God fades. Our mind becomes dominated by self-centeredness.

Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment. (Hebrews 9:27) For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23) For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23) We should all be grateful for the love of God, sent down His only Son Jesus Christ to bear the punishment for our sins. If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (Romans 10:9). For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8) Thanks be to God. When we believe and accept the saving grace of Jesus Christ, God no longer holds us guilty, but declare us righteous (innocent). Our image of God is recovered. We become the children of God; enjoy the blessing of eternal life. Only then can we live a life of real freedom.



## Recollection of the Church Dedication Ceremony

### The Big Three

When I receive the task from church council, to write a report of the church dedication event on January 9th, I was very excited because the successful completion of the church building is the most significant milestone of our congregation. Not only it's a testimony of Lord's blessing toward our church, it also demonstrated the amazing grace to be with our Lord's work and gospel. This is a Godly task that I dare not to be neglectful, and candidly invited two brother and sister to help and share such monumental and profound experience of the event, and to document in this report together as a memoir.

On January 9, 2011, a year after our Lord's blessing with this building, the testament of our Lord's endowment and grace has arrived. This experience has us thought of Psalm Ch23:

By the guidance of His graceful hand, He gave our brothers and sisters a unity from our Lord, a devotion of ourselves, to accomplish our fundraising goal. ("The Lord Jesus Christ is my shepherd, I should not want", Psalm Ch23:1)

God has blessed our church building committee members with wisdom to plan and execute for such project, and to overcome all seemingly impossible difficulties in this process. ("Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for



# First Quarter Newsletter

Chinese Baptist Church of Greater Boston

Also available on [www.cbcofb.org](http://www.cbcofb.org)

You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me”, Psalm Ch23:4)

Despite strong opposition from multiple fronts, the holy cross is raised, the holy temple is erected, God's glory has shined through. (“You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; My cup overflows”, Psalm Ch23:5)

When our congregation decided to have the dedication ceremony in January, we all had our reservation due to the weather condition and other challenges by the depth of winter. Major inconvenience or even cancellation is a very possible reality. But to God's grace, He gave us beautiful weather accommodation that day. The whole congregation participated in the service safely and with tremendous excitement. Even though the specially ordered chairs for the sanctuary did not make it on time for the ceremony, and the congregation had to use the temporary folding chairs, it never hindered our high spirit into full gear.

Among our honorable guests, there were two representatives from the Baptist Association, our architect Brain Saluti and wife, and Timmy Ng and wife of Ng Construction Company. Members from Central Baptist Church were also there to present their gift of beautiful floral baskets. The event was filled with excitement.

It began by a magnificent performance of the choir with “The House We Built for the Lord”. The congregation and guests were joyous and grateful beyond their hearts in celebrating this new house of God. In the past 20 plus years of Sunday services, the place of

worship was borrowed and temporary. But today's service is like no others from the past, we are in our own holy temple, a graceful gift from God. We praise our Lord, Halleluiah!

The most touching moment during the dedication ceremony was when the chair of building committee summarized the entire church building process. He used a short 15 minutes of projecting pictures to demonstrate how this beautiful sanctuary of today was transformed from an old office building, the interior was completely dismantled, slowly and step by step, it was transformed into a tidy and abundantly equipped church. In this cumbersome renovation process, brothers and sisters of the building committee submitted to our Lord's guidance in all things, sought out our Lord's wishes, in order to resolve one challenge after another. Very many brothers and sisters including myself were deeply touched with teary eyes. After the worship, sister Yvonne and a few others served delicious and plentiful refreshment, everyone was enjoying the food and such joyous occasion.

During the refreshment, I had a question in my heart. In the 20+ years that we had prayed for our own house of God, why did it take such long? “did he listen to our prayers?” or “when to bless our wishes?” This question has been weighting down my heart.

During Sunday worship a few weeks after, the answer emerged during the pastor's sermon. The pastor said: “God is to listen to our prayers, but when we pray to God, and do not see God's reaction, we though God does not listen, and that's wrong, only when God maintained silence, we are to endure time, God



# First Quarter Newsletter

Chinese Baptist Church of Greater Boston

Also available on [www.cbcbg.org](http://www.cbcbg.org)

will extend His blessing according to His course, we are to carry on with our tasks and not to idle." This statement is so true, God's "silence", our "patient and endurance", we should continue our devotion and donation, to enrich our house with abundant provisions. (Malachi 3:10)

In this past year, we all devote our effort for this church building project. It's finally a successful completion of this house of our Lord. Allow me to call upon everyone, to plan and consider our next advancement, to aim our focus toward preaching our Lord's gospel, to lead others into our Lord. We should be united to conquer new height, to let this beautiful church filled with many more worshippers of God.

May all the glory and honor bear upon our heavenly father, Amen.



## Baptismal Testimony

Koon Fung Dai Cheung

I was born, grew up and received education, worked and served the community, found my spouse, got married and formed a family all in Hong Kong. After marriage, I selflessly dedicated all my time to attending my husband and upbringing of my children. In those days, gospel could be heard next door. I was surrounded by endless testimonies of salvation. However, I was ignorant and conceited. Time and again, I turned down numerous opportunities of learning about and

trusting in the Creator of universe, the loving Trinity, God the Father and Jesus Christ the savior.

For the sake of my daughter's future, I immigrated to United States in 2003. This is a whole new world and a new chapter in my life. To establish my career in this new country, I eagerly threw in everything I got to learn and adapt my life to the new environment. In the belief that "if others can do it, so can I", with great patience and pain, I bite the bullet; bear with everything that came my way, strived for better days ahead. As things started to fall in place, I was dealt a big blow. My dream was completely shattered. I fell victim to a grave illness.

In this darkest moment of my life, helpless and desperate, the loving Father promptly extended His gracious arm to me. He refreshed me with His sweet rain, saved me out of the valley of death. He sent several dedicated loving followers to patiently instruct me in the precious precepts of God, the signs and miracles performed by Jesus. They shared with me their personal experience and evidence of God's miraculous transformation. This was like a loving mother feeding her infant. I was inspired, my eyes were opened. I was greatly comforted and encouraged by Sister Dora Lam of the Boston Chinese Evangelical Church. Other members of the church including Mrs. Leung, Mr. and Mrs. Yiu Hung Lam as well as Uncle Cheung all contributed great support in the form of painstaking instruction, intercession and witnessing. Throughout the past decade, I have received abundant grace and mercy, fully experienced the scripture in Psalm 37:5, "Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him





# First Quarter Newsletter

Chinese Baptist Church of Greater Boston

Also available on [www.cbcbg.org](http://www.cbcbg.org)

and he will do all things.” This is the proverb of my life, reminding me to fully commit, trust and obey the almighty God. He always watches over me, extends His mercy, protection and guidance. He is the commander leading me to victory in the warfare against the devil. In this life I shall live as a saved person. In the life to come, I will enjoy the eternal blessing in heaven with the company of Lord Jesus and all the saints.

I am deeply moved by the love of God, resolutely commit myself to the faith, accept Jesus as my savior and follow him through baptism and trust in him for my whole life.

May all glory and praise be to God the Father in heaven. Amen.



## Baptismal testimony

Mandy Lam

Fulfilling my commitment to Christ through baptism brings great joy to me. This event really turns a page in my life, depicting great changes from the past to the present.

In my past, I found myself very popular but self-centered. Being the youngest child in the family, everyone cared for me, especially my grandma. She took special care of me and submitted to all my demands, made me feel like a princess. My life was colorful, filled with partying, drinking and squandering of money. I have been selfish, focused only on my pals and myself, did not care much about my family.

Several months ago, my grandma became gravely ill. The doctor told us that she could only live twelve more hours. Her life was very perilous. Unfortunately, I was in United States and it would be several days before I could see her in Hong Kong. Owing to my job, I could not set off earlier. Overwhelmed with anxiety, I suddenly turned to the Lord in supplication. I hope that the Lord could hear my prayer in tears. A pledge was made that if I could make the trip and see grandma, I will accept Jesus Christ, follow Him in baptism. In the next morning, a phone call from Hong Kong told me that grandma has greatly stabilized and regained her consciousness. Overjoyed, I gave thanks to Lord Jesus and praised the wonderful true God. God is real! Even though my grandma passed away twenty-one days after I arrived in Hong Kong, I was still glad to see her for the last time. I am also convinced that grandma has gone to be with Christ in paradise. Death seems scary, but I know for sure that grandma is now free from pain, enjoying the company of Christ.

Through it all, I experienced the true living God. He has been watching over my family, including my grandma. I just have not come to Him by faith. Coming to terms with my multitude of sins and mistakes, I sincerely wish to repent. Back in America, I resolve to attend church every week punctually. Before my conversion, I could never get up on time and often missed worship service. This has changed since my commitment to Christ. I pray to the Lord every day. Vastly different from my past, I start caring about my family. I even tell the friends around me the stories of God in my life, in the hope that they would also believe in Lord Jesus.



# First Quarter Newsletter

Chinese Baptist Church of Greater Boston

Also available on [www.cbcofb.org](http://www.cbcofb.org)

This baptism is so meaningful and delightful to me. My family also shares the joy. Thanks be to God for accepting me as His child and granting of eternal life.



## Baptismal testimony

Alison Wong

I knew God for a long time, because I have been going to church since I was a baby. Throughout the years, I have learned so much about God's salvation. I want to get baptized to show that I am a witness of God to other people. God helped me through tough situations in my life. God has always been there for me.



## YEC Overview

Katelyn Saylor

This was the first year for this group of teens to attend YEC. While the teens were slightly skeptical about the event, I knew with confidence that they would enjoy this weekend experience. As a teen, I went to YEC each winter for six years and for the past few years I was a part of YEC staff. This was my first time leading a group to YEC. The preparations started in the fall with handing out forms and talking to students about what would go on through the weekend. I began praying that the group would take a step out and come see what YEC was all about. When I received the first completed form, I knew that the rest of the teens would be turning in their forms soon. During the next few weeks, I saw the teens put aside their uneasiness about the event and become excited about what the weekend would be like. I answered questions about what to bring, what to wear, where the hotel was, and many other questions.

When January 28 arrived, it was time to travel to Sturbridge, MA. While gathering at the church, I noticed the teens were calm and ready to hit the road. We drove to the hotel area and the event began. Upon entering the hotel, it became clear to the group what this was going to be like. A hotel filled with about 900 teens and chaperones. There were students walking around from many different types of congregations. Brazilians, Hispanics, Egyptians, Bhutanese, and Anglos were all hanging out together. To me, YEC felt a little bit like school but totally different because everyone there is



# First Quarter Newsletter

Chinese Baptist Church of Greater Boston

Also available on [www.cbcbg.org](http://www.cbcbg.org)

either a Christian or someone who is comfortable talking about God. We received our papers from registration, and went to our hotel rooms to settle in. That evening we attended our first worship service. I watched our group as they sat among hundreds of people. The night began with a couple guys that I grew up with rapping on stage. We were surrounded by people cheering and screaming. It was like being at a concert, except that all of the music was glorifying to God. I think our teens were a little shocked to see people be so outwardly excited about worshipping God. Our teens were quiet that night. I think it was a time of soaking in the surroundings. Before I knew it, it was time for bed and we were resting up for the next day.

Saturday morning began early and was a busy day. We played games, heard sermons, ate lunch, and participated in packing. Packing was an hour long session in which we packaged meals that were then sent to Haiti and given out to people. It was a lot of fun to work together to help people. After lunch, I went to a graduation party with Hillary. During this party, we heard from Andy Haynes the collegiate minister for New England. He talked to the group about ministries for college students to get involved with. I also went to a Quest informational meeting with Ryan, Ellen, Alison, and Tony. This meeting gave an overview of what Quest is. Quest is a discipleship program for high school juniors. It is a yearlong program that involves leadership development, Bible studies, and a mission trip to another country. Perhaps someday we will have a teen participate in Quest. During Sunday night worship, I saw a different side of our teens. They were participating with the crowd even yelling

sometimes. They were singing songs that they had never heard before. As a youth leader, it was really exciting to see. Later that night we talked about what we had learned from YEC. I think many students were impacted and challenged to grow deeper in their faith. If you have a chance you should ask one of the students about what they learned from the event. Attending YEC was a great experience for our group. It was an amazing thing to see so many teens who love Christ getting together. Most of our teens only know one or two people at school who love Christ. I look forward to YEC next year.

**YEC**

Samantha Lee

Over the weekend of January 28, 2011 to January 31, 2011, we went to Y.E.C. Y.E.C. stands for Youth Encountering Christ. It is a retreat for youth groups from all over New England. When we arrived, all the kids went on a tour while the adults went to a meeting about what we were going to do. When the meeting and tour finished, we went to a big room and had a "celebration" which was singing hymns to God and listening to a message from Chad Childress. They had a great band to help us sing hymns. Later that night, we had a church debrief and had some snacks. When the meeting was done we all went to bed. Early the next morning, we ate breakfast and headed to the big room for a morning celebration. All the churches were divided into groups. We were group B. The next few hours were set up into two sessions. For session one group B went to super youth group. It was a bunch of games



# First Quarter Newsletter

Chinese Baptist Church of Greater Boston

Also available on [www.cbcbg.org](http://www.cbcbg.org)

that involved running around and teamwork. Session two for group B was packing. We packaged food for Haiti and boxed it up to get ready for its shipment. After the first two sessions, we had lunch. When we finished, we went to session three and four. Session three was games and bible verses. For session four, we split up and went to different places. Emily, Wilson, Brian, Raymond, Gary, and I went to an activity named Write it Rap it. We met some people and we wrote a rap together. We had to write a four line rap and perform it in front of a camera. After the sessions, we had free time. Hillary, Ellen, Emily, and I went to get changed to go swimming. We had fun swimming and I attempted a handstand under water. After dinner, we had a celebration and went to another debrief. We went to the Y.E.C. Late Night and played a couple games. Then, we went to bed. On Sunday, we finished packing up and went back to the cars. When we got back to Quincy, we were just in time for church.



## My Experience at YEC

Ellen Chow

I recently went to a youth conference called Youth Encountering Christ (YEC) along with many other youths in our church. We were first introduced to this conference by Katelyn. She has been going to YEC since high school. It was a life-changing experience to see so many teens come together in one hotel to worship God in a really intense and passionate way. Everyone was so full of energy the first time I walked into the worship room even though it was already late at night and everyone

was still recovering from the long drive to the hotel. It was definitely something I have never experienced before. Attending the worship services felt like I was at a rock concert. This concept of the services has made many of us in the youth want a worship band for our youth worship service.

At YEC we also played a lot of fun active games that got us moving. In one game we had to stick a piece of tape on our foreheads. Two people would have to literally put their heads together and then pull apart to see whose tape stuck on to the other person's forehead. Whoever lost their tape will have to continue a long conga line behind the person they lost to. This got to be very interesting and even Wilson was one of the final people still remaining with tape on their head. At the end of every game, the youth leader would explain how each game can relate to our spiritual life with Christ and how we can use the lesson we learn in everyday life.

Another interesting and surprisingly fun activity we did at YEC was packing. I don't mean packing up our suitcases to go back home but packing food for the hungry in third world countries. We had to fill up plastic bags with rice, grains, dried vegetables, and other important nutrients and then seal them to pack up in boxes. I was in charge of weighing the bags and making sure they were all a specific weight. Others had the job of filling the bags and also sealing the bags. Everyone got a chance to help out and through our efforts in that single day, we were able to pack thousands of meals for people all around the world in poverty. I had a great time packing up the food and I would have probably continued to do so if





# First Quarter Newsletter

Chinese Baptist Church of Greater Boston

Also available on [www.cbcofb.org](http://www.cbcofb.org)

we hadn't stopped for lunch. I can see that I was not the only one having fun doing this. I even saw our chaperones such as my dad, Derek, and Uncle Tony helping out by refilling every station with rice from the heavy bags. Overall I had a great first experience at YEC and I plan to continue to go next year if possible.



## Gain or loss-Christmas trip adventure

Jennifer Wong

Home country visit should have been a usual event. Yet, this trip to Hong Kong in December of 2010 turns out to be a highly extraordinary experience. It turns a new page in our memoir of travels, while at the same time, bears witness to God's mercy and kindness. He walks with us in times of trouble. The legend begins with:

Harris and I took the British Airway from Boston to Hong Kong through London. Everything was fine on the airplane initially. We expected arrival at London in seven hours. To our surprise, we felt that the plane was turning around after six hours. Then the pilot announced that landing at London was no longer feasible due to vicious snow storm. He had to choose a suitable place to land, namely, Iceland. I was wondering in my heart, why fly to Iceland while there is snow storm in London? Arriving at Iceland, I did not find any ice; it was just a frigid place. I was grateful for God's provision of a nice hotel. However, dinner was not adequately served. I really missed the half serving of roast chicken sandwich I left on the

plane. Under such circumstances, the pack of small cookies given by my daughter became especially tasteful. We could also send out the message of safe arrival and this unexpected event to my family through the internet service provided by the hotel. Conceivably, everybody was astonished by this visit to Iceland.

For your information, the currency of Iceland is Krona. One US dollar can exchange for about 100 Krona. As such, the daily purchases in Iceland easily involve thousands and tens of thousands. For example, a regular Tee shirt costs 2500 Krona, equivalent to 25 US dollars. Having to handle such humongous quantity of money in transaction ruined my appetite for shopping. By the way, this is a funny incident. Harris spent 1600 Krona on a regular not too delicious Chinese lunch consisted of noodles, rice and sliced meat...etc. Later on, when he told this to our son, he questioned on the rationale of squandering 1600 dollars on a lunch instead of buying a good quality jacket to keep mommy warm. My heart already got warmed up by this caring expression of my son. Of course, all these misunderstanding stemmed from the lack of knowledge on the exchange rate.

During our second day in Iceland, we shared the table with a black female student during lunch. She was really picky and refused to start eating until the entrée was served even though delicious fish cream chowder and crispy bread were already in front of her. This did not bother us. We quickly enjoyed this delightful lunch. The poor student kept waiting and waiting until the time for cleanup. She regretted, but it was already too late. Why so fussy with just a simple lunch?



# First Quarter Newsletter

Chinese Baptist Church of Greater Boston

Also available on [www.cbcbg.org](http://www.cbcbg.org)

Anyway, we seized the opportunity to chat with the student, explaining to her God's blessings. We could sleep on comfortable bed and pillows instead of lying on stone cold airport floor. She could only nod her head in agreement. Just hope that God would work His way into the hearts of these students. Well, at 3 am, we finally flew back to London, on track for continuous adventure.

Due to flight delays, our names have been placed on the waiting list of four different airlines, giving us four chances to get to Hong Kong. We were hopeful that at least the fourth flight could take us. To our disappointment, after waiting for a whole day in anticipation, the staff courteously asked us to leave the airport terminal. There may not be any flights taking off within a week. We will be informed and reimbursed for part of the costs. It seemed like a nightmare to me and I wanted to wake up.

The British airport is one of largest in the world. It takes 15 to 20 minutes to travel between various terminals by bus. All day long, we were shuffling through several terminals. We had to line up for a whole hour just to inquire. These back and forth trips ate up several hours of our time. To make things worse, we lost track of our luggage. I only have my handbag with me.

After waiting for two hours, we finally checked into a hotel. Harris and I decided to waste no time in starting a new route of our tour, enjoying a world of our own. Even though this was my fourth tour in London, it was still mesmerizing. It brought back a cozy

feeling of close to each other. God has never left us alone. Just trust and obey Him and we shall see an open door.

On the night of December 23, we experienced a memorable night of Christmas caroling. We attended the concert presented by the choir of a great church. This was the most beautiful Christmas gift.

A peaceful Christmas Eve was spent on an airplane. We checked into hotel in Hong Kong by December 25 afternoon, and received a warm welcome by the luggage we missed so very much.

Dear God, how little had we lost and how abundant had we gained in this trip! We had not stopped praying in all times and God has provided and guided us in the appropriate moments. How rich is your grace and how great is your love! We have never been abandoned. You took away all our concerns and solved all our problems. Trusting in your guidance, we shall not be despaired or perplexed. For we know that you are always with us in every moment of our life, till eternity.

Dear Lord, we thank you!



# First Quarter Newsletter

Chinese Baptist Church of Greater Boston

Also available on [www.cbcofb.org](http://www.cbcofb.org)



## Follow My Lord

Yau Kwan Sung Lo

Walking on the rugged path of life,  
 I encounter the ragging wave  
 of the sinful world,  
 the roaring wind from Hades.  
 Seems like I am ensnared  
 within layers and layers of the devil's trap.  
 I become the lonely boat in rough seas.  
 I am the lamb who got lost in the dark night.  
 Falling deep into the abyss of perplexity.  
 What shall I do? What shall I do?

In the blink of an eye,  
 The earth shook, the rocks split.  
 (Matthew 27:51)  
 The curtain of the temple was torn in two from  
 top to bottom. (Mark 14:38).  
 Precious blood flows down from the cross.  
 It is the precious blood of our Lord,  
 flowing into the world of man.  
 To cleanse the world of its stain by sins.  
 Dear Lord, you are the light in darkness;  
 the compass of navigation.

The Lord said, "I have come into the world  
 as a light, so that no one who believes in me  
 should stay in darkness." (John 12:46).  
 Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth  
 and the life. No one comes to the Father  
 except through me." (John 14:6).

Follow the Lord, let's go follow the Lord.  
 Let us shed all the heavy burden  
 of this corrupted world.  
 Do not delay in confessing and repenting

and trusting in the Lord,  
 follow the Lord.  
 Let us promptly follow the Lord together.  
 Through Him we can make the trip  
 to our home in heaven.



## New Year Countdown

Priscilla Yeung

For those days when we planned for Jacob Fellowship activities in Central Baptist Church, we always first need to make sure if we can reserve the place. Now with our own place, in last quarter when we planned for our Jacob Fellowship activities, we came up with an amazing idea. Since we have our own place and the New Year eve falls on Friday, why don't we have our fellowship activity of counting down to year 2011? This crazy idea happened to be accepted and included on the fellowship meeting schedule. So we gathered for the coming of a new year at the night of 12/31/2010 in our new church that God prepared for us.

At that evening, our meeting was later than usual. Our fellowship folks came gradually and they brought a lot of delicious snacks, desserts, drinks and etc. We sang hymns together and watched our church photo album which had some old pictures. We also played games and having time for looking backward and forward. At 11:59 p.m., it was time for the countdown. 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, Happy New Year! All brothers and sisters wholeheartedly thanked God for giving us such spiritual home.



# First Quarter Newsletter



## Church News

Our events during the first quarter:

- 1/9/11 – Church Dedication
- 1/28-1/31/11 – Youth Encountering Christ Camp
- 3/6/11 – Women's Day Worship Service

Upcoming events in the next quarter:

- 4/22 Good Friday Worship Service
- 4/24 Easter Sunday Worship Service
- 4/29-5/1/11 Youth Retreat Camp at Northboro

Pray fervently and share the mission:

- For 2011, our church theme is "Fellowship and Spiritual Revival to Manifest God's Grace." Let us encourage one another and support our church.
- 2011 Church Building fundraising target \$100,000.00. May God motivate brothers and sisters to give generously.



## Prayer Requests

1. Ask God to motivate brothers and sisters in keeping up with daily Bible reading and prayers, fervently pursue spiritual growth.

2. Intercede for Reverend Henry Mak. Ask God to fill him with the Holy Spirit, empower him to lead brothers and sisters in unity to build up the congregation and spread the gospel.

3. Pray that the love of the Lord compels brothers and sisters to keep on offering for church building, to enable timely paying off of church debts and mortgage.

4. Intercede for the Mandarin fellowship. Ask God to build up the Mandarin group, enable the brothers and sisters to love, care for and serve one another, and invite more Mandarin speaking friends and relatives to join the fellowship.

5. Intercede for our church members:  
i. Mrs. Grace Yuen has to continue regular hemodialysis. Ask God to grant her peace and ease during the procedure.

ii. Pray that Sister Yin-ping Au's heart condition be stabilized, so that she can have the mental and physical strength to handle her job and daily domestic activities.





# First Quarter Newsletter

iii. Intercede for the speedy recovery of Deaconess Irene Chow Kan Chan from the injury sustained after fall, so that she could quickly return to normal life.

iv. Pray that the arthritic pain of Sister Koon Wan Chow Wong will not progress.

v. Pray for the speedy recovery of Sister Mo Ping Wong, following her ankle surgery.

vi. Intercede for the unemployed brothers and sisters in their job search. Ask God to provide their daily needs and a suitable new position.