

Pastor's Message

By Greg Anderson



God has blessed Union Church: 2010 has been a year of tremendous spiritual and numerical growth—and growing pains. God continues to craft a unique congregation of strategic importance to the Kingdom. What a joy it is to be your pastor and to work with colleagues who are hitting their stride and stretching us into new forms of ministry. Praise God for the volunteers who bring their passion and gifts into the mix.

The old saying, "It is easier to rein in a charging stallion than to resuscitate a dead horse" applies to Union. There is a vitality and buzz to our congregation. Most encouraging have been the comments from long-term members who have seen Galatians 6:9 coming true: "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest." We are so grateful for the prayers and preparations of past generations of Union members who have made the present growth possible.

Enjoy this report. Pray for this church. Thank you for being part of what our Lord is doing at Union Church Hong Kong.

Gratefully,



CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Greg Anderson
Associate Pastor: The Rev. May Tsui
Pastor In Residence: The Rev. Wee Hian Chua
Worship Director: Mr. Chris Yorks
Youth Director: Mrs. Kristin Franke
Filipino Ministry: The Rev. Ruth Tablada
Church Manager: Mr. Arthur Lam
Executive Assistant: Ms. Bianca Tsui
Business Administrator: Ms. Bonnie Yan
Secretary: Ms. Helena Tsang
Children's Education Consultant: Mrs. Jane Towns
Children Ministry Office Manager: Ms. Diane Vickers
Sunday School Coordinator: Mrs. Jennie Purvis
Youth Ministry Intern: Mr. Kyle Koster
Janitor: Ms. Winnie Yuen & Albert Chan

Trustees' Review

By Geoff Lovegrove

As described in the Ordinance, the Trustees are the body corporate of Union Church. The Corporation holds in trust the property of Union Church for the purpose of a church: for the public worship of God; for preaching the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the principles and usages of Protestant Christians for the sole object of spreading the knowledge of Christ; and for the instruction of children and adults; provided always that the

Church shall accept as its primary standards the Word of God as witnessed to by the scriptures of the Old and the New Testaments, the Trinitarian Doctrine of the Christian Faith and the Sacraments of Baptism and the

Lord's Supper. The day-to-day function of the Trustees is to oversee the management of investments Union Church is fortunate enough to possess, thanks to the foresight and good management of our predecessors.

The church has two main investment funds: the General Fund and the Three-Quarter Century Fund. There are no restrictions on the use of the former; however, there are on the latter. The Three-Quarter Century Fund was established shortly after the First World War, about 75 years after the foundation of the Church, and any income or capital can be put only towards specified expenses and outgoings connected with maintenance of the

church's Ministry. In effect, the Three-Quarter Century Fund is the investment set aside to ensure that we can continue to employ a Minister should we ever be unable to pay our way.

In overseeing the management of the Church's investments during 2010, the Trustees note the following:

- (a) the aim of the church's investments is steady growth and income;
- (b) the funds are managed by HSBC Global Asset Management (Hong

changed from a predominately European expatriate congregation to a church that is approximately 60% Asian. Union has gained a reputation for strong lay leadership and launching new ministries (Alpha, Emmaus) that have blessed the wider Hong Kong community.

Gregory Anderson, arriving in 2007, is Union's 21st pastor. May Tsui is Union's second associate pastor, Ruth Tablada is the second pastor to the Filipino Fellowship, and Marybeth Asher-Lawson was Union's first teaching pastor.

Union has gone from a ministry of the London Missionary Society to an independent congregation. Three boards govern the church: the Deacons' Court, the

Committee of Management, and the Trustees.

A charter member of the Hong Kong Christian Council and active in the Network of International Churches, Union faces the future with a firm sense of its founding charter:

*We differ in small matters,
we agree in great realities.*

*We trust that we are one
in Christ Jesus.*

We all love Him who died for us.

*On the fact of this great unity, our Union as
a church is based.*

- James Legge 1849



A Brief History

By Greg Anderson, David Bunton, Brooke Himsworth, and Geoff Lovegrove



In 1866, Union Church relocated to a new site on Staunton Street near Hollywood Road and Lyndhurst Terrace. It was called “the handsomest building in the colony.” Dr. Legge returned to Britain in 1873, where he became Oxford’s first professor of Chinese.

In 1890, the church was moved brick by brick to the present Kennedy Road site. Meanwhile, the Chinese service became a sister church, Hop Yat, which has produced more than 1,000 daughter churches. Union’s only daughter church is Kowloon Union (1924).

Union Church was founded in 1844 by the Rev. James Legge, a Scottish member of the London Missionary Society. Then known as Union Chapel, the first building was constructed in 1845 on Hollywood Road. An English service was held in the morning and a Chinese service in the afternoon.

Legge served as pastor from 1844-1867 and from 1870-1873. He began translating the Chinese classics into English. His translations are used to this day and still in print. He was a major figure in early Hong Kong and the founder of the very first government school (now called Queens College).

The Japanese occupation of Hong Kong during WWII saw the forced closing of Union. The events surrounding its total physical destruction remain a mystery. (The most intriguing theory is that the bricks were used to rebuild Government House — especially the Japanese tower.)

The survivors began fundraising and the existing Fellowship Hall was built in 1949 and used for worship until the sanctuary was finished in 1955. The education building was built in 1970. In 1977, it was renamed the Rogers’ Annex, in memory of Dennis Rogers, perhaps the most significant 20th century Union pastor.

Since the handover in 1997, Union has

Kong) Limited, and the Trustees saw no need to change this at the present time;

- (c) the funds are invested in bonds and reputable companies listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, and the Trustees saw no reason to change to other forms of investment during the year;
- (d) the Trustees reviewed and maintained the investment guidelines of 0-70% in equities and 30-100% in bonds and cash;
- (e) the performance of the General and Three-Quarter Century Funds was considered poor when measured against a benchmark based on the split of investments; the explanation is below;
- (f) the Trustees continue to consider it unwise to make substantial foreign currency-based equity investments with the attendant risk of currency fluctuations; the investments include a small amount of cash in US\$; and
- (g) the Trustees aim to ensure that funds are invested ethically.

At the end of 2010 the market value of the General Fund was approximately \$13.71M, made up of about 56% equities, 35% bonds and 9% cash. The Three-Quarter Century Fund was valued at approximately \$7.76M, comprising about 57% equities, 33% bonds and 10% cash. The General and Three-Quarter Century Funds both gave returns of

about 5%, about 1% poorer than the benchmark based on the guideline split of Hong Kong equities, bonds, and cash. HSBC explained that although equities performed better than the benchmark over the year, the overall performance was reduced to below benchmark due to underperformance in the first half. The two funds gained about 130% over the past 10 years.

The Chater (Union Church) Endowment Fund is an endowment fund that is too small to be managed alongside the General and Three Quarter Century Funds. Invested in HSBC shares (with a small amount of cash), the Fund was valued at approximately \$100,000 at the end of 2010, showing a loss of about 5% on the year. No payment was made from the Fund to the Committee of Management which is responsible under the Fund’s Deeds for the use of any income.

The Trustees have addressed a number of issues during the year with appropriate professional assistance, including licensing and matters regarding one of our leases from the Government under which Union Church owns its site.



Deacons' Review

By Simon Ng

This year the Deacons' Court welcomed Hugh Williams and bid farewell to our longtime friends and spiritual leaders Steve and Hannah Miller, both of whom have served as Deacons and will be missed.

The Deacons have been committed to weekly prayer about the redevelopment of the church, which has been very fruitful as the Lord reveals spiritual insights that will be incorporated into the redevelopment process.

Union Church enjoyed numerical growth this year, but our joy is to see the success in embracing and adding to our spectrum of worship traditions ranging from the use of more lectionaries and awareness of the sacraments at the 8:30 AM service, to the seeker-friendly approach of U-Café, to the intergenerational relationships at the 6:00 PM service. Such diversity is reflective of a global trend in honoring the value and meaning of biblical worship while adapt-

ing and augmenting it to post-modern culture and practices. The Deacons are grateful to those who have contributed to this process.

The departures of Pastor Marybeth and Garland Wong this year caused the Deacons and CoM members to conduct an honest and in-depth review. There are significant lessons for all of us to learn in order for us to truly understand God's grace and truth in this process. This year, the Deacons have benefited from more joint meetings with the CoM (and attended by our Trustees), which provided opportunities for fellowship and healthy dialogue among the three boards.

I shall be taking a sabbatical after the forthcoming AGM. This is in line with biblical principles, which are now written into our new rules to provide for rotation of the church leaders. I pray that the Lord will raise up new leaders to take Union to its next chapter. To God be the glory!



for Property,
C) Other Expenses underestimated by HK\$ 209,573, and
D) a rebuilding of the Children's Ministry and Playgroup which required investment and additional expenses of approximately HK\$ 58,700 above original plans.

Cost containment and budgetary discipline will be the hallmark of the 2011 budget.

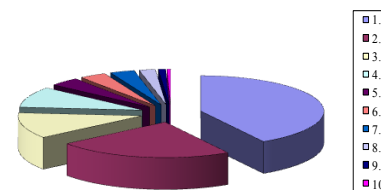
- 4) Net Investment gains of HK\$ 753,686 were realized on Union Church's financial assets, an increase of 5.8%. This was a more modest performance compared to 2009's increase of HK\$ 3,107,400.

From purely a cash flow perspective, Union Church ran a modest operating deficit of approximately HK\$ 224,103 in 2010. The Committee of Management continues to balance

the demands and desires to continually expand Union Church's ministries against the need for financial prudence and a discipline of stewardship. The budget for 2011 commits us to rebuilding the pastoral and administrative ranks of the church and makes a significant commitment to Children's Ministry. We are conscious of the magnitude of staffing-related costs and expenses as a percentage of our total expenditure and are committed to keeping that ratio at a manageable level. We believe that these staff hires will add significantly to overall church growth in 2011 and beyond. The Finance Ministry's role serves to help plan for and provide the appropriate financial resources to allow the various ministries of Union Church to grow in a measured, sustainable way, while maintaining as high a degree of financial prudence as possible.

2010 DONATIONS AND DISCRETIONARY SPENDING

	Amount (in HK\$)
1. Community Care ¹	1,034,173
2. Mission Ministry ²	575,867
3. Worship Ministry	291,765
4. Education Ministry	235,715
5. Encouragement Ministry	98,387
6. Filipina Ministries	87,000
7. Christian & Missionary Alliance	80,592
8. Communications Ministry	52,549
9. Guest Speaker Honorarium	23,810
10. Broadcasting	11,600
TOTAL	2,491,458

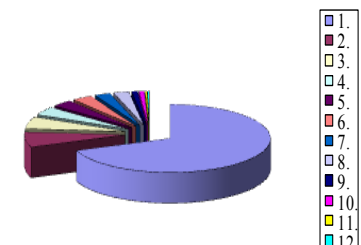


¹ Includes HK\$366,139 for 2010 Reserve

² Includes HK\$166,670 from pass through

2010 OPERATING EXPENSES

	Amount (in HK\$)
1. Salaries/benefits/MPF	6,432,683
2. Depreciation	664,172
3. Repairs/maintenance/insurance	529,458
4. Utilities	375,577
5. Mothers & toddlers	309,931
6. Others	305,031
7. Household/sundry	233,814
8. Advertising/admin/office/IT	233,569
9. Accounting/audit	88,500
10. Pastors Conference	78,899
11. Professional networking/meeting	28,140
12. On going professional education	26,645
TOTAL	9,306,419



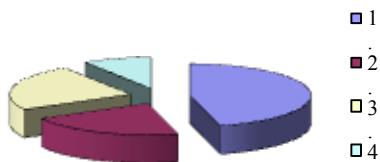
Treasurer's Report

By Brad Landes

The overall financial performance of Union Church in FY 2010 was mixed:

- 1) Total income to UC was 5% above our projected 2010 budget and 14.51% above 2009 figures. Pledges grew by 43.79%, weekly offerings grew by 29.34%, while general offerings declined by 25.91%. Wedding and Funeral Services continued to grow as meaningful contributors to Union Church's overall revenue. The congregation has once again demonstrated renewed and increased financial commitment to Union Church.
- 2) Expenditures for Community Care, Mis-
- 3) sions and Evangelism Ministries in 2010 were HK\$ 1,703,025 versus an original budget of HK\$ 1,587,592.
- 4) Operating expenses were under pressure in 2010 against budget. Approximately HK\$ 408,123 was spent in excess of the original budget. The largest contributors to these excesses against budget were:
 - A) a miscalculation on the expense associated with insurance coverage for staff and retirement benefits at the time of budgeting last year (underestimated by app. HK\$ 85,000),
 - B) HK\$ 137,720 in required spending in excess of original budget of HK\$ 350,000

2010 INCOME	Amount (in HK\$)
1. Pledge offerings	4,774,445
2. Weekly offerings	2,177,879
3. General Donations ^	2,469,871
4. Other	954,598
TOTAL	10,376,793



2010 PASS THROUGH ACCOUNT

	Amount (in HK\$)
Carried forward from 2009	461,028
Donations received	2,711,913
Distributions made	2,948,540
Balance to be distributed	224,401

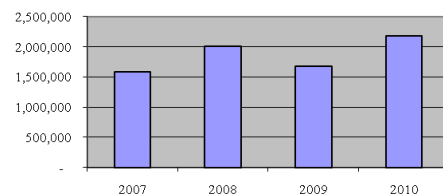
PLEDGES* AND OFFERINGS

(*includes contributions to Friends of HK Charities)

Average Contribution per Person (number of contributors)

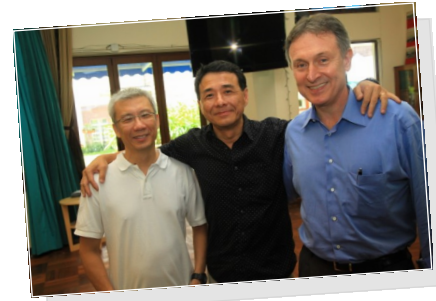


Weekly Offerings per Year



Committee of Management's Review

By Steven Yung



Each member of the CoM brings invaluable insight to the church as they serve faithfully in the background supporting the ministry of the church. With the grace of God, we aim to continually improve on all fronts.

As Union Church reaches out to the massive "unchurched" opportunities around us and beyond, your proactive participation is much needed and appreciated.

Last year was another year of growth with double-digit increases in both members and offerings. It's amazing to witness these God-anointed results and give thanks for the spiritual leadership of Pastor Greg and his team of pastoral, program, and administrative staff. We're very grateful for this multi-year track record of growth: a strong momentum poised to accelerate!

It's been an honor to serve you and lead our CoM for so many rewarding years, and I'll be humbly stepping down as your Chairman of Committee of Management. I do want to sincerely thank you for all your prayers and support since my return from Atlanta in the mid-nineties.

With the incredible growth came challenges to the facilities, the staff, and the church leadership. The Committee of Management strives to provide the best "temporal" resource at all times, as part of our call to the Great Commission. This year, specifically, the CoM was instrumental in working with the children's ministry team to increase staff to bring better programs for our children. The CoM also played a key role in working with the Property Committee to upgrade facilities and increase the security of the church.

To outgoing CoM members who will be stepping down with me this year, a BIG thanks for your partnership. To incoming new CoM members, we pray that our Faithful Lord will guide you and raise you up as a loving TEAM of servant leaders!



Encourage

By May Tsui and Ministry Team Leaders

After his first Sunday at Union, a visitor commented, "I was very excited at my first impressions of your church. It seems you have combined a scriptural orthodoxy with a casual setting and friendly people. I don't find that most churches do those three things well but Union seems to have all three." This is what we aim towards: to provide a welcoming and encouraging community where individuals come to know the biblical Jesus and to love as Jesus loves.

God is gracious. In 2010, we had 27 adult baptisms, 17 new members, and the small group enrollment increased from 200 to 300. God empowered the Pastoral Care/Fellowship Ministry, Small Group Ministry, Recovery Courses and Prayer Ministry to reach out and minister to individuals where they were in their season of life.

Fellowship/Pastoral Care Ministry welcomes visitors and helps integrate them into the life of the church. We also promote fellowship opportunities to ensure that we are connected to each other and experiencing God's love and grace.

At the beginning of September, we welcomed the congregation with a Kickoff BBQ Sunday serving supersize hamburgers and hotdogs. Adults and children had a great time reconnecting with each other



after the summer holiday. The church was ushered into a new term celebrating God's goodness.

To empower and release people into ministries, an Opportunity Fair was also held. Ministry opportunities were introduced,

and individuals were encouraged to identify, develop, and use their spiritual gifts.

Monthly welcome lunches and fellowship dinners are also served after worship services. In



April, we had a marathon Easter Breakfast for the two morning services serving hot cross buns and breakfast casseroles for more than 400 people. A sumptuous

effective in ministry, more efficient in administration, and better able to communicate with the Union Church community. Garland's service with Union Church concluded in November, and we thank him for the contributions that he made during his time on staff.



since, the Union Church Children's Ministry and Mid-Week Playgroup has benefitted from the leadership of Jane Towns. Jane has built a large and capable Playgroup Team, which is a good thing since the renewed Playgroup expanded immensely after re-

opening in September.

Throughout 2010, the Union Church staff continued to be blessed by the gifts of our congregation. This included several volunteer executive coaches and other training consultants offering their gifts of time. Next year will continue to see an emphasis on growing the Union Church staff both professionally and spiritually.



Mid-year Bernice Lee completed her assignment as a Training Intern and returned to Canada. A few months later, a new Youth Intern, Kyle Koster, joined us from the United States. Especially gifted in worship, Kyle has delighted the youth with his music, ministry, and unique ideas. We were also blessed during 2010 with the addition of Chris Yorks as our Worship Director. Chris and his wife, Barbara, joined us in May. Chris' high impact on the church's music ministries peaked in 2010 with the unforgettable Christmas Cantata and Children's Christmas Show, *It's a Baby*.

We were saddened with the November departure of our Teaching Pastor, Marybeth Asher-Lawson. Leading the children's ministry and adult education at Union Church for just over two years, Marybeth's love and compassion will be missed. During Marybeth's transition and

drive. Steve Nutland recruited a committee of long-time and newer Union members who guided the church through a month of teaching and testimonies which culminated in a Thanksgiving Celebration dinner that 350 enjoyed.

On November 21, adults, youth, and children presented their pledges to the Lord on commitment Sunday. There were 180 pledges, totaling \$9,318,314, a 27% increase over the \$7,333,288 pledged last year.

STEWARDSHIP

Union is a generous congregation. At a time when many churches are struggling financially, Union had another successful stewardship

Administration Report

By Rosanna Chan, Charles Caldwell, Greg Anderson

PROPERTY

God has blessed our church with tremendous growth this year, and with it comes an increased demand on our physical premises. Over half of our property expenditure was on capital improvements. We have made some changes in the Upper and Lower Annex classrooms to cater for



the growing children's ministry and weekly playgroups. In addition to this, we added a large tent at the back courtyard which can serve as an extra classroom as well as a meeting room. We also made some upgrades to the Upper Annex toilets. With the construction behind our church, we were advised by the police to upgrade our security measures by adding more locks and keypads, CCTV, and motion sensors. We thank the Lord for his protection and provision for our church this year.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The past year, the Lord once again blessed Union Church with the many talents and gifts of the staff. With the growth Union Church experienced, the Union Church staff team went well beyond the call of duty. Please take a moment to thank and recognize the important work of the staff when you see them around the church!

Early in 2010 we were joined by Pastor Chua as a part-time Visiting Pastor. Pastor Chua provided a wide



range of support to the congregation, church leaders, and church staff. You will continue to see Pastor Chua mentoring pastoral and lay individuals in the coming months. Garland Wong joined us as the Program Manager and Young Adult Director early in 2010. Among other projects, Garland was in-



strumental in implementing a new church database program called Fellowship One, which will assist the church to be more

Thanksgiving lunch, with turkeys and all the trimmings, was the highlight of the



fall. Regular fellowship dinners are held after the 6:00 PM worship service. As food is a great way to foster connectivity and interaction, we have come to be known as a friendly church with food.

The Fellowship Ministry also organized a study tour to the Holy Land for thirty-six people from Union Church who attended the Mt. Carmel Convocation in Haifa, followed by a tour. The tour traced the footsteps of Jesus at the shore of Sea of Galilee, to the infamous Via Dolorosa, and to the prayer walk on the Temple Mount. The journey was not only a visit to the Holy Land, but a personal pilgrimage to reaffirm the faithfulness of our God and Savior. Returning from the trip, we were not the same but challenged and transformed.



Through our **Pastoral Care Ministry**, we walk alongside those who are physically and/or spiritually weary. We send cards, perform home and hospital visits, offer prayer, and provide counseling. The Family in Need Committee also offers practical help. It is a joy to see individuals on their feet once again, standing in the confidence of the love of God and their church family.



Small Group Ministry seeks to encourage and nurture believers to become disciples and disciple-makers. We encourage everyone to join a group, so that everyone is cared for and no one cares for too many. This year, two new groups were formed bringing the total number of groups to 22 with an enrollment of 300 under the leadership of 52 group leaders. This number does not account for people in Alpha, choir, praise and worship team, and others who function as small groups by worshipping, loving, learning and serving together.



In the summer, we offered a Summer Spiritual Refreshment course where everyone was welcome to join together at church for a meal, teaching, and group discussion. We did Francis Chan's study *Crazy Love*. A record high number attended this year; the Fellowship Hall was packed; and we were all challenged by God's radical and relentless love for us.



In addition to small groups, the young adults also organized fellowship activities under the leadership of Garland Wong. Some of the highlights of the young adult activities were the Hong Chi Climbathon, kayaking and BBQ, hikes, and volunteering at Crossroads.

Recovery from Divorce and Separation Course meets a growing need and is also a way to reach out to the Hong Kong community. The six-week course has now been running for three years, three times a year. The course is led by Michael Birley, Janice Johnston, and a team of regular volunteers that has included Anne Sawyer, Pearl Lam, Trudie Hudson, Marissa Danao, and Ray Warhola. There remains a great need for help and understanding from the Church in this very painful area of family life. The course attracts a wide variety of people from many backgrounds, the majority of whom are not regular church goers.

Feedback from participants is very encouraging. In response to the question "What did you enjoy most about the course?"

Small group ministry continues to provide coaching to the existing leaders, train new leaders, and launch more groups to meet the needs of the different segments of the



congregation. The fastest growing sector of the small group ministry is the young adults. In ad-

17 NEW MEMBERS

1. Burke, Margaret
2. Caldwell, Doug
3. Caldwell, Lisa
4. Johnston, Janice Mary
5. Lai, Marvin
6. Mak, Alexander
7. Ng, Kay Ian
8. Pan, Aaron Jing Dao
9. Quezon, Mei Ling
10. Runciman, David Andrew
11. Sutherland, Mei Ling
12. Sutherland, Neil
13. Towns, Jane Elizabeth
14. Vander Walt, Heleen
15. Vander Walt, Schalk
16. Williams, Hugh
17. Williams, Marie

REGULAR ATTENDEES LEFT HONG KONG

1. Blomfield, Bill, Philippa & Lizzy
2. Chao, Jason, Candice, Marcus & Rebecca
3. Demuynck, Michel, Ellen & Marie
4. Dudden, Steve, Debby, Oliver, Travis & Brenton
5. Goh, Eric
6. Grether, Mark, Marina & Peter
7. Marsh, Victor
8. McElheron, Derek, Bo, Jonathan & Juliana
9. Metzger, Matt, Susan, Alex, Max, & Eric
10. Sng, Errol, Theresa, Ethan & Myra
11. Stevens, Elizabeth
12. Turner, Mark, Julie, Drew & Hannah
13. Wirth, Michael



63 WEDDINGS, 4 ARE MEMBERS

1. Terence Law & Kelly Chung
2. Calvin Yuen & Liza Ong
3. Colin Ko & Kristin Hartono
4. Paul Cheung & Jeanette Lee

The Union Church Family

By Greg Anderson and the Union Church Staff

27 ADULT BAPTISMS

1. Chan, Annie Wai Hing
2. Chan, Kai Hong Kenneth
3. Chan, Wing Fai
4. Chang, Lily
5. Chao, Marcus Yan
6. Chao, Rebecca Wei
7. Chua, Joseph
8. Cummack, Delwyn Lee
9. Foo, Candice Yee-Ling
10. Greilach, Steven Michael
11. Hsia, Tedford
12. Lai, Adrian
13. Law, Siu Cheung
14. Law, Yee Yan
15. Lim, Zoey Faith Y. M.
16. Mueller-Rappard, Benjamin
17. Ng, Janet
18. Ng, Keng See Leon
19. Poon, Wing To
20. Suen, Kendy
21. Teu, Fui Wearne Vivien
22. Turner, Hannah
23. Wong, Angie
24. Wong, Jason
25. Wong, Jessica
26. Yip, Adele
27. Yiu, Bonita Tsai

5 INFANT BAPTISMS

1. Gonzaga Honarvar, Sorayah
2. Lau, Nathan
3. Li, Christian
4. Li, Louie
5. Van Der Schaft, Anna Sophia



7 CHILD DEDICATIONS

1. Chu, Jenson Chun Sing
2. Ng, Lucian Zhen Zheng
3. Ng, Vanessa Zhen Rou
4. Nutland, Abigail Hai An
5. Smith, Duncan Craig
6. Wee, Caitlyn
7. Wong, Kaitlyn

one participant said, "The openness, the honesty, the willingness to share, the fellowship, meeting others who are trying to deal with their own issues and the realization that I am not alone."

The vision for this difficult but important ministry continues to be that anyone who is going through divorce or separation should have access to a course near them. The course was originally developed by the Family Life department at Holy Trinity Brompton, London, and we hope to help other churches in Hong Kong and the region develop and run their own courses.

Prayer Ministry team's vision is to see the prayer life of Union Church mature into a natural desired and shared activity, undergirding every aspect of individual and church life. During 2010, we have again experienced God's faithfulness through many answers to prayers through a commitment to prayer from members of the church prayer chain and intercessors network. Within minutes of notice, these faithful servants spend hours on their knees to cover the prayer requests received via emails and written notices from our congregation and friends worldwide.

On Sunday, the prayer ministry team is available to pray before and after ser-

vices for congregants in need. We have seen the Spirit open many hearts to receive God's touch through praying for one another.

The Monthly All-Church and the Tuesday Morning Prayer Meetings have been faithfully attended. There is always room for more people seeking to be transformed by the power of praying for one another. On Tuesday mornings, we start our days interceding for each other, Union Church, and the city of Hong Kong; while monthly we give thanks for the month that is ending and request spiritual direction for the month that is coming!

We have held a number of group prayer events this year, including a focus on prayer during the Lenten season and an intercessory prayer training session with Pastor Chua Wee Hian. As the Deacons made prayer the focus for the beginning of this new decade, there were weekly prayer meetings to discern God's will and vision for Union Church as the 21st century unfolds. Every week a group of Deacons met and sought the Lord through corporate prayer, Bible sharing, and listening. The Lord has opened our hearts to trust in His faithfulness to Union Church as we look to redevelop for a bright new period of walking deeper with HIM.



Educate

By Jane Towns, Kristin Franke, and Ministry Team Leaders

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise. – Psalm 111:10

Education ministries at Union Church exist to teach the Word of God to believers of all ages, so that our understanding and following of the Word may result in lives of praise.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

In 2010, Union celebrated the birth of many new ministries for children and their families. Under the leadership of Don Newlon, a new vision focused on a:

"Week-long ministry of evangelism and educational excellence for relationship-led and developmentally appropriate Christian spiritual formation."

Throughout the week, children experience God's love through relationships with loving adults in appropriate ways for their stage of life and learning. The Roger's Education Annex is now used Monday to Friday by our adult-accompanied **Union Church Playgroup**. Children between the ages of 6 months and 3 years attend with a parent or helper and are treated to a loving, stimulating environment of developmentally appropriate activities. In addition, the adults witness positive adult-

child interactions modeled by our staff. Bible stories and songs are included in the learning activities, and families from the Playgroup community are invited to join our church family. Many thanks to the CoM and Property Committee for their commitment to renovating the Annex for this purpose.



Sunday School was divided in order to meet the needs of younger, middle and older children. In the Upper Annex, the creation of a new class for two-year-olds, in addition to our already thriving crèche/nursery for infants, meets the developmental needs of our youngest children with familiar teachers, appropriate learning materials, and a play-based, loving environment where the love of God is felt

The **3:00 PM Filipino Service** led by Pastor Ruth Tablada is the spiritual home for many Filipinos in HK. Six Bible studies and a prayer group gather on Saturdays and Sundays and go to Hong Kong parks every fourth Sunday to evangelize. The highlight of their year together is hosting the annual Chinese New Year Conference for Filipino fellowships from all the major Hong Kong churches. This year ten leaders finished eighteen weeks of KAIROS – condensed World Mission Course. As a



result, the Filipino Ministry leaders have committed to intentionally living for Christ and to being aggressive in sharing their faith with others.

The **6:00 PM Evening Service** is led by a gifted team of musicians and is featured as our young adult service. The panel discussions, Legge Lecture Series, and different preachers from the morning services continue to bring excellence to this worship service.



Food and fellowship also remain an integral part of our 6 PM service thanks to the ministry of Pastor May's fellowship team.

Union has a new children's after school group in the ministry of **Music Makers!** We have fun with all aspects of music and worship, while learning about music and notation using rhythm instruments, choir chimes, and just about anything else that will bring the joy of music to our children. This includes singing and voice training. One important aspect of Music Makers is bringing our musical offerings and gifts to God while performing in the church service. You'll be experiencing more of our Music Makers in 2011!

Preaching

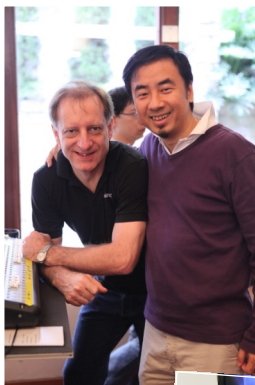
Our Senior Pastor, Greg Anderson continued to do most of the preaching (35), with Pastor Chua (4), Pastor May (3), and Pastor Marybeth (2) contributing. Guest preachers included Legge lecturers Jerry Root (Wheaton) and Jeremy Begbie (Duke), Stuart Windsor (CSW), Douglas Birdsall (Lausanne), David Sutherland (ICM), Peter Lim (Outreach Foundation), Mark Greene (LICC), Morgan

Jackson (Faith Comes By Hearing), Jackie Pullinger (St. Stephen's), Andrew Gardner (Vine), Amy Orr-Ewing (RZIM) and Andrew Chan (St. John's Cathedral).



The goal for a full time Worship Leader for the **11:00 AM Contemporary Service** was realized in the appointment of Chris Yorks as Union's Worship Director. Chris and his volunteer team have

taken Union's contemporary service to heights of excellence in worship and song. New singers and instrumentalists continue to be added into the mix and there's always room for more! We welcomed Rob Porter as a member of our part-time staff. He has worked with the AV team to standardize and upgrade our sound hardware and production. This has provided an excellent foundation and greatly enhanced our worship. The time and talents of the AV team, singers, and instrumentalists are greatly appreciated! We also enjoyed Union's first full-scale children's Christmas musical, *It's a Baby!* About 120 children and volunteers were involved in making this a success for the Glory of God. Thanks to all our musical volunteers at Union.



With a relaxed and child-friendly vibe, **The U-Cafe** service meets in the Fellowship Hall simultaneously with the 11:00 service. Led by a gifted team of musicians and coordinators, the service is a worship home for nearly 100 people, including many of our youngest children. U-Cafe would not be possible without the efforts of many volunteers bringing together technical aspects, music, creative design, and the beautiful food and fellowship provided for all who attend. Our volunteers are loved and appreciated! May U Cafe continue to innovate and thrive in 2011!



and proclaimed. Children three to seven years old enjoy the same type of experiential faith through their relationships with their teachers, but enjoy the experience of belonging to a large group during the introductory worship time. Older children, aged eight to ten, make up the new "Tween Xtreme" and begin to adopt an affiliative faith by growing closer in relationships with their peers and adult leaders through live worship and community-building activities. This year, Sunday School adopted Scripture Union curriculum to meet our learning goals this year at all age levels, and a host of new teachers joined our teaching ministry. Thanksgivings and three cheers go to each teacher who sacrificed their time and talent to share the Gospel and their love with our children.



In August, Union hosted its first Vacation Bible School which was

a great outreach to the community as well as an exciting time learning about God's love for the children of our church. Union's Children's Ministry also presented its first full-scale Christmas musical in December with over 100 children involved in the production.

Children's Ministry was able to accomplish great things for God in 2010 due to an increase in staff and volunteers. Pastor Marybeth Asher-Lawson led the Children's Ministry through the exciting changes and new initiatives into the fall when Jane Towns moved into the post of Interim Director of Children's Ministry with Jennie Purvis as Interim Sunday School Coordinator and Faith Cheng as Playgroup Leader. Numerous volunteers contributed countless hours serving humbly in the Children's Ministry office.





YOUTH MINISTRY

The youth ministry continued in its mission to "develop lifelong disciples of Christ who love God and love others" in 2010.

Over Easter, sixteen students traveled to Yunnan province in China to serve with Concordia Welfare and Education Foundation bringing a water system to a rural village.

Students were challenged spiritually and physically, as they lived without running water for four days. In May, the youth led worship for the 11:00 AM service, and four students helped give the sermon, speaking about teenagers in the Bible who had made a difference. Over the summer, the youth and church said farewell to our intern Bernice



Lee and welcomed a new intern, Kyle Koster, who brought gifts of leadership and music to re-ignite the youth worship team. The fall kicked off with many students taking the 40-day challenge of

listening to the New Testament. Finally,

in December, the youth helped serve at the Christmas Dinner to raise money for their spring 2011 mission trip. It was an exciting year in 2010 growing in faith together and spending time together in fellowship. Many thanks to the parents and volunteers who regularly give of their time to help build relationships with students and point them

towards Christ.



develop students' art skills to a professional level. We were also able to support Chung King Ministries, Crossroads' Foundation, Inner City Ministries, among other local ministries.

Alpha

In 2010, about 50 guests completed the Alpha Course

in April and October. It has been exciting to see the Holy Spirit changing guests' lives, new friendships being made, and broken relationships being restored. In particular, it has been very encouraging to note that some previous guests:

- * went on to receive baptism,
- * run Alpha courses in their offices for their staff and in a children's kindergarten for other mothers,
- * started a new bible study small group,
- * join in church groups and activities.

The most effective way to encourage new guests to attend an Alpha Course is through a personal invitation, and if the host also attends, the guest is more likely to complete the course.

Grateful thanks to our Core Team members, group leaders, helpers and taskforce members who have contributed to the success of Alpha over the past years. In particular, huge thanks to Hannah and Steve Miller without whose dedication

and commitment the course would not have flourished. Finally, we give God the glory for all He has done.

WORSHIP

"Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before Him with thanksgiving and extol Him with music and song" - Psalm 95:1-2

And we did! I have much to be thankful for in 2010. It was a year of transition and change for Union and their new Worship Director. Thanks to you all for your support and inspiration our first six months in Hong Kong. - Chris Yorks

Worship services

The 9:30 AM Traditional Service continued to thrive thanks to Forrest Morr and our gifted Choir. The sense of community and commitment within the choir is nurtured through common goals of worship and excellence in music. The Advent Cantata, Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, was another highlight this year.

We were also blessed with a special choir for our new 8:00 PM Christmas Eve service. Many thanks to the instrumentalists for sharing their talents during our preludes and postludes to the glory of God.



commissioned as Union Church missionaries and moved to Bawing in the Philippines to work with our partners in church and community work. Although their stay was shorter than expected, they helped the Mission Committee better understand the ministry and ways we can improve the scholarship program and help a young church with leadership issues.

Craig and Debbie Rayner, another Union missionary couple working with YWAM in Kazakhstan experienced some health setbacks but are now in place.

The youth continue to lead the congregation in mission, this time with a trip to China to work with water issues. Over their Easter holidays, sixteen students went to Yunnan province in China to help build sinks at a rural elementary school. They even lived four days without running water of their own!



As Missions joins with Community Care, ACS consultants and perhaps a Missions Director will help take Union into an exciting array of new mission opportunities.

Community Care

The Community Care Ministry reaches out to those less fortunate in our society by working in co-operation with established Christian and non-Christian agencies. Our

aim, apart from providing financial assistance, is to engage members of our congregation to participate as volunteers in the number of charities we support and thus develop deeper and lasting relationships. Ideally the church's involvement will act as a catalyst for evangelism in our community. In 2010, Community Care Ministry joined forces with other English-speaking international churches to provide funding for a church coordinator for refugee ministries employed by Christian Action. We also upgraded our relationship with Alpha Course HK Ltd in support of their outreach programs, partnered financially with Kun Sun in prison ministry, and held an Alpha in Prison Course at Stanley Prison. We started vocational training classes at Chun Tok School in flower arrangement and



A small group hosts a Christmas party with Christian Action

card making. The cards were available for sale at the Helena May Christmas Bazaar in October 2010 and at a commercial enterprise. The funds from the cards went to the Cultural Arts Fund at the school to



Helena May Charity Bazaar

LIBRARY MINISTRY

Under God's divine guidance and Grace Payne's leadership, the Library ministry in 2010 began a new book club that ran from January to June. Participants discussed books including *The Ultimate Gift*, *The Practice of the Presence of God*, *The Bait of Satan*, and *The Heavenly Man*, with the objective of knowing God in His fullness and enjoying fellowship together. In the autumn, the monthly book reviews were tied to the different ministries of the church. **September:** *Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference* (Prayer Ministry); **October:** *Battlefield of the Mind* (Pastoral Care, Small Group); **November:** *Living Water* (Mission, Outreach, Community Care); **December:** *The Five Languages of Love for Men, Teenagers, and Children* (Men's Fraternity, Youth, Children). The Library Ministry is supporting efforts to have a library set up at Surinumu Primary School, located in Sogeri, Papua New Guinea.



DISCIPLESHIP

The 2010 Discipleship Team aimed to educate and equip adults for a vibrant life of faith through teachers and speakers who challenged us to explore practical faith issues with the goal of Christ transforming our lives. This past year, our pastors led us in studies, and men and women in the body of Christ offered up their time and talents to guide us in the footsteps of Christ.

Adult Christian Education opportunities were offered for all members of the congregation ranging from women's Bible studies led by Pastor Marybeth to The Men's Fraternity led by Steve Pittman and Michael Witthoft. Sundays at 9:30 saw a small group led by Robin Scardino in the first half of the year, and the course "How to Handle Money Before it Handles You" led by Doug and Lisa Caldwell; while at 11:15, Catriona Woodrow,

Ken Morrison, and John Nichols continued studying Ray van der Laan's DVD series. During the week, Steve and Sheryl Nutland led The Marriage Course twice in 2010, and numerous



parenting courses were offered for parents of infants and toddlers, young children, and teens. Pastor Chua led a Lenten series on prayer, and Richard Harris led a summer study on *God at Work*.



In March, Discipleship Ministry hosted a panel discussion at the 6:00 PM Sunday service on the topic "Christian Ethics in the Workplace" led by Judy Vaas, Harriet Holbrook-Lui, Dorothy Chan, Alia Eyres, Jane Arnett, and Lily Ng.

This past year the Discipleship Ministry assisted the Legge Lecture Series in hosting guest speakers Dr. Jerry Root and Jeremy Begbie. Dr. Root preached in May at three services including the Legge Lecture, "Reality is Iconoclastic" and led an



inter-generational presentation on "Tolkien and Lewis on Fairy Stories." Jeremy Begbie blessed us with his musical and theological ministry at the worship services and an additional performance/lecture "Sound of Hope: Music in the Spirit."



In 2011, we are challenged with continuing to offer courses rich in content and relevance. The Discipleship Ministry would love to hear what types of courses you would like to participate in or lead, and the ministry needs new members to ensure its viability.



Finally, all of the Education ministries join together in thanking Pastor Marybeth Asher-Lawson for her service to Union Church, and we embrace her in her pursuit of God's calling.

Evangelize

By Greg Anderson, Chris Yorks, and Ministry Team Leaders

Since 1844, Union has sought to "win men [and women] to faith" and to assemble together "in divine worship." The way this WORSHIP and WITNESS took shape in 2010 is the focus of this report.

WITNESS

"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." - Acts 1:8

In Hong Kong, in China, and around the world, Union members and ministries sought to be faithful witnesses to Jesus Christ.

For the first time, the largest number of baptisms came from our small groups. Friends inviting friends into a small fellowship group was the major way people came to Christ at Union Church this year. The great growth in the number of people in small groups reflects how vital relational evangelism is.

The old stalwarts, Alpha, Walk to Emmaus, Marriage Course, and Recovery from Divorce and Separation continued to be the means by which many people entered the Christian faith.

"And now for something completely different." 2010 saw the marriage of our two key outreach ministries. Community Care and the Missions Committee merged to form a new ministry.

Missions

Union is passionate about missions. Thirty-eight percent (38%) of Union's 2010 revenues, including pass-through donations, went to local and worldwide missions!

This year a number of mission leaders helped Union develop its growing role in missions. Jonathan Reckford (CEO Habitat for Humanity), Steven Howard (CEO Business in the Community), Douglas Birdsall (Chairman, Lausanne Movement), Morgan Jackson (Director, Faith Comes by Hearing) and Stuart Windsor (National Director, Christian Solidarity Worldwide) all spoke at Union.

There was an October Mission Emphasis that brought David Sutherland (Chairman, International Care Ministry), Roger Hunter (Faith Comes by Hearing), and Peter Lim (China Director, Presbyterian Outreach Foundation) to raise our awareness of their ministries.

In 2010, Robert Hudson turned over the leadership of the Missions Committee to Ray Warhola. He had a very good reason for doing so! Robert and Trudie were

