



BUILDING UNION FOR THE FUTURE

annual
report
2013



UNION
CHURCH
佑寧堂

TRUSTEES	DEACONS	COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
Geoff Lovegrove (Chairman) Rosanna Chan Alan Law Isabel Morrison Henry Ngan John Nicholls Marga Wulfgram-Ip	Don Kanak (Clerk) Terri Appel Charles Caldwell Andrew Chua Ewan Copeland Shlivya Dhavale Mike Witthoft Catriona Woodrow	Steven Kim (Chairman) Jane Arnett (Vice-Chairman) Lily Ng McIntyre (Hon. Treasurer) Christine Wu (Hon. Secretary) Lily Ng Chen Po Cheung Kenneth Chiang Shaun Dove Eric Fung Roy Huang Nicole Li Kay Ian Ng Rina Tan Andrew Teng Pieter van der Schaft (serving part of 2013)

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Senior Pastor's Message

By Greg Anderson

2013 was a pretty good year for Union. Worship attendance, baptisms, and other objective measures increased over 2012. A very new and young staff (only three of us have been here over three years) are learning their jobs and how to work as a team. The Deacons and the Committee of Management had some of the most enjoyable church meetings I have ever attended. A united outlook has become the norm at Joint Leaders meetings! We are living up to our name.



Much of 2013 was preparation for what will happen in the next few years. There is a sense that God has a special plan for this church and we are prayerfully preparing to put that plan into practice.

The year was also one of milestones. Pastor Michele Bland was installed as associate pastor. Pastor Matthew Fredericks was ordained in Washington DC in May and installed as assistant pastor at Union in September. Steve Nutland completed his term as COM Chair and Steven Kim took over in a seamless transition. I thank God for these two men of God.

Thank you for your part in making Union a place where Christ is exalted and each person matters. Read these reports and see how the Lord is at work in and through us.

"Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God...For from him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever." Romans 11:33a,36.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Greg". The signature is stylized with a large, looped 'G' and a trailing 'y'.

Trustees' Report

By Geoff Lovegrove, Chairman



The Trustees for the year 2013 were: Mr G. Lovegrove (Chairman); Dr Rosanna Chan, Mr A. Law; Mrs I. Morrison; Dr H. Ngan; Prof J. Nicholls; and Mrs M. Wulfgram.

As described in our 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 through 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.

At the end of 2013 the market value of the General Fund was approximately \$13.99M, made up of about 59% equities, 20% bonds and 21% cash. The Three-Quarter Century Fund was valued at approximately \$7.96M, comprising about 59% equities, 23% bonds and 18% cash. The General and Three-Quarter Century Funds showed gains of about 2.5% and 2.0% (net) respectively, that is about 0.3% and 0.8% poorer than the benchmark. The total income generated during the year was approximately \$585,000. The combined investments generated income of \$584,939 during the year. The General and (Three-Quarter Century) Funds have gained about 40% (40%) in the past five years, 95% (90%) in the past 10 years and 165% (155%) in the past 15 years.

In overseeing the management of the Church's investments during 2013, 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 Kong) Limited (see below);
- (c) the funds are invested in bonds and 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 investment guidelines to the fund managers are 0-80% for equities and 20%-100% for bonds/cash;
- (e) the performance of the General and Three-Quarter Century Funds was about the same as a benchmark based on the year-end split of investments;
- (f) the investments include a small amount of cash in US\$, but apart from this the Trustees continue to consider it wise to invest in HK\$, the currency of the majority of church income/expenditure; and
- (g) the Trustees aim to ensure that funds are invested ethically.

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 \$116,400 at the end of 2013, showing a gain of about 8.3% on the year. No disbursement was made from the Fund to the Committee of Management which, in accordance with the Fund's Deeds, is responsible for the use of any income.

HSBC Global Asset Management informed the Trustees in November 2013 that they were not prepared to continue managing the church's Funds because: HSBC makes no money from the church account; and, the church does not use HSBC for its day-to-day banking. The Trustees responded by saying that the church has been a small local charity since it started 170 years ago and, having been dealing with HSBC on a continuous basis since at least 1922, they regretted that HSBC was no longer prepared to work with them. They speculated that the reason the church does not deal with HSBC on a day-to-day basis might be because senior members of the bank had at times been part of the church leadership and would have recommended using a competitor, in line with norms of that time. Discussions with HSBC are ongoing, but nevertheless the Trustees are considering alternative fund managers.

As trustees for the property, the Trustees have been represented in redevelopment discussions (through the BUFF committee, as reported elsewhere) by Dr R. Chan, G. Lovegrove and A. Law with professional advisors when required. The Trustees wish to express their gratitude to members of the

congregation, the Deacons' Court and the Committee of Management who have contributed their skills and worked hard to overcome the setback in February 2013 concerning building approvals which caused the selected developer to withdraw.

The congregation will have an opportunity to vote on the redevelopment proposals at the 2014 AGM, thus making an important decision for the long-term future of the church in the same way that congregations in the past have made important decisions leading to the strong, financially secure, independent church established by Ordinance under the Laws of the Hong Kong SAR that we have today.

“The day-to-day function of the Trustees is to oversee the management of investments Union Church is fortunate enough to possess through the foresight and good management of our predecessors.”

-GEOFF LOVEGROVE, TRUSTEES CHAIR

Deacon's Court

By Don Kanak, Clerk



The year 2013 has been another of many blessings in the spiritual affairs of Union. As we began 2013, we prayed for a year of stability and nurturing of newcomers. Union's outstanding Ministry Team, several of whom joined in 2012, gelled together and connected with the congregation to create an amazing year of new and diverse ministry activities with relative stability. There are many highlights that will be covered in other reports from Oasis to Youth, from Mission trips to an awesome Youth Christmas banquet, and from Pastor Matthew's Ordination and Installation to a Union original children's Christmas musical

"MTR to Bethlehem", just to mention a few!



It has been a privilege to continue to serve with fellow deacons Terri Appel, Andrew Chua, Charles Caldwell, Shlivya Dhavale, Ewan Copeland, Mike Witthoft, and Catriona Woodrow. The Deacon's Court is charged by the Church Ordinance to be responsible with the Minister for all matters relating to the spiritual welfare of the Church. Deacons, together with the Senior and Associate Pastors, meet monthly for prayer and deliberation on a range of issues, as well as encouragement of each other and of various Union ministries. The year has been one of good chemistry coupled with genuine exploration together with Pastors Greg and Michele. With prayer and discussion, we focused on seeking God's purpose for this generation of Union Church, knowing that we are the beneficiaries of the brave and committed works of previous generations.

Union's growth and by the aging of our current church facility. In that journey, in which we believe God has opened door after door, we have been constantly reminded that the church is God's people, not a building.

“With prayer and discussion, we focused on seeking God's purpose for this generation of Union Church, knowing that we are the beneficiaries of the brave and committed works of previous generations.”

-DON KANAK, DEACONS' COURT CLERK



Throughout the year, together with the Trustees and Committee of Management, we have prayed for and with the Building for the Future team, sought God's will to find the best solution to space needs created by

Whatever the answer and decision regarding the building, we share a vision for Union to be a beacon of hope, a diverse community that is unified by its love of the Lord, its commitment to service, discipleship, and joyful Christian fellowship, and its passion to be a spiritual home where all may seek and find Jesus' love and grow in faith together.

Committee of Management Report

By Steven Kim, Chairman



Proverbs 16:9

*A man's heart plans his way,
But the Lord directs his steps.*

2013 may rank as one of the most pivotal in Union Church's 169-year history.

After much careful thought and deliberation, the BUFF committee was able to recommend a developer who can be our partner in "Building Union For Future" to the Joint Leadership.

With the congregation's approval at the AGM in March 2014, many aspects of the redevelopment plan will be moved forward. Countless prayers and many hours have gone into this process. Great thanks are due to members of the BUFF Committee and the Design team for their courage, dedication and hard work over the past year.

Even after all these efforts, our work is just beginning. A myriad of details still need to be determined as the scope and shape of the redevelopment

continues to be formed. Your voice and participation are needed and I invite you to connect with anyone in the Joint Leadership. Most importantly, I ask you to be in prayer, as we continue to discern God's future for Union Church.

These are exciting days in the life of Union. Since April 2013, COM has been working towards improving the way the church operates and governs itself. After much prayer, careful study and reliance on the Holy Spirit, we adopted a system called “Policy Governance.” This is where COM retains its fiduciary responsibility and policy-making authority but delegates operational responsibility to the Senior Minister. This is a dramatic change from the way we governed ourselves previously.

By the end of the first quarter 2014, a Policy Governance handbook will be completed; with the understanding that COM will continually update it to reflect current circumstances. We also aim to complete an Employee Handbook, providing guidelines for Union’s staff.

The other duty of COM under Policy Governance, is to listen to the congregation. There is always a COM member at the courtyard’s table after the 9:30AM and 11:00AM services on the last Sunday of each month, to listen to congregants’ views.

Brenna Dykman is the newest member of the Union family. She joins us as the co-Director of Youth group, partnering Ryan to bring more fun activities and guide our youth to Jesus.

We are proud to introduce Union’s redesigned website. Following the feedback from many congregants, we decided to give our website a new look under the guidance of Po Cheung. The new website has a fresh appearance and is easier to navigate. We have created new menu items, which allow viewers to find information about Union’s ministries and services. This new version of the website is just a start; we will add more content pages and functionalities over the coming months. It is our aim to simplify information and clarify navigation.

**“These are
exciting days in
the life of Union.”**

**-STEVEN KIM, COMMITTEE OF
MANAGEMENT CHAIR**

In 2014, COM will continue to work closely with the Trustees and Deacons to keep our mission going forward. I would like to thank the COM members for their time and service. Their willingness to devote their wisdom, experience and leadership is why Union’s operation continues to grow and improve.

God has invited us to continue this 170-year journey of being a blessing of God on the corner of Hong Kong and around the world. Finally, I would ask you to pray fervently for God to continue to show the path He has set before us.

Encourage

Associate Pastor's Report by Michele Bland



“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common.” Acts 2:42-44

“Time flies when you are having fun” the adage goes. Overall, it’s been a wonderful first year getting to know the staff, leaders and the congregation at Union Church. As they say in Hong Kong, “you hit the ground running”.

The Acts 2:42-44 describes the Early Church. These verses continue to be a favourite of mine, an ideal, when it comes to establishing a sense of community. It is in these verses the reader is reminded of the importance of teaching, community, prayer, sharing and outreach. Our small groups continue to provide many opportunities for people to build a sense of community and grow in their relationship with God. Praise the Lord for the many small group leaders who are committed to the body at Union Church. This year some new groups were formed, thanks Mike and Sheri Witthoft and Alexander Mak for

leading. I personally have enjoyed meeting weekly with the Friday ladies Bible Study group and the new Tuesday bi-monthly lunch study group that meets in Central.

Teaching highlights included a six-week Wednesday night Lenten Series on *Prayer* by Philip Yancey, which was well-attended and included dinner and study leading up to Easter. Many groups also studied this material during the Lenten season. In keeping with Union tradition a Summer Spiritual Refreshment was offered in August with a five-week series *Follow Me* by David Platt. Thank you, leaders, for facilitating the small groups during these sessions.



Two (three-week) baptism classes were held and two baptisms were offered. From this, there were 20 adults who were baptized. There were also three membership classes offered and six people became members. I also met with parents who were

baptizing or dedicating their babies and six babies and children were baptized and four dedicated by Pastors Michele, Greg and Matthew.

There were many pastoral care occasions that afforded me opportunities for hospital visits, palliative care visits, funerals, weddings, as well as pre-marriage counselling. A four-week Grief Share group/class for those grieving the loss of a loved one was also offered. Thank you Barbara Yorks and Judith Ragless for being part of this team.

“Our small groups continue to provide many opportunities for people to build a sense of community and grow in their relationship with God.”

-MICHELE BLAND, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Regarding community, I am most thankful for the hospitality team who worked hard recruiting cookie bakers for Christmas, turkey fixers for the annual Thanksgiving dinner, goodies for induction services (Matthew and myself) and dinners for evening studies. The hospitality team consists of Sheri Witthoft, May Tang, Sasha Alison and Evelyn Copeland.

This year there were seven Welcome Lunches, opportunities for newcomers to have lunch with staff and ministry leaders. Thanks to Sheri Witthoft for personally catering these lunches. We continue to try to establish an effective connecting team that includes Table on the Green.



new team of Charles Schmidt and Isabel Morrison who are very committed and encouraging. I am also thankful for the specialized support team who we can call upon for help with budgeting and finance. This year we farewelled Pieter van der Shaft , who had been faithful to this ministry.

As a family we have enjoyed being a part of this community of faith and we continue to lead a small group in our home. Our children, Elise (12) and Elliott (9) have enjoyed connecting in Sunday school, youth group, youth band and youth choir. In addition to my part-time role at Union, I continue to work on Doctoral studies, chair the radio committee at RTHK for the Christian Council, and record messages for the radio. It is with hope and joy I look forward to the adventures that 2014 will hold for us all at Union Church.

Regarding outreach, I am very thankful to my COM rep Lily Ng Chen who has been very supportive and visionary. This year UC hosted both an Easter and a Christmas Fair. These are no small undertakings and involve soliciting not-for-profit NGOs to sell their goods at a stall (18-20 different groups), people and activities for games, crafts, food, advertising; the list goes on. These fairs were well attended by the community and were great connecting opportunities!

Our FIN team, Family in Need, has been very active this year, meeting regularly as a team and with individuals. I am most grateful for the



Prayer Ministry by Charles Caldwell

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

Colossians 4:2 NIV

The Prayer Ministry serves to offer prayer and support to the members and attendees of Union Church. We are committed to the power of prayer and encourage you to give our team the opportunity to lift you up in prayer. Our goal is to make dependence on God, through prayer, a key cornerstone in Union Church.



The backbone of the church's Prayer Ministry team is the Union Church Prayer Chain. With over 125 individuals privately praying, prayer requests or praise reports are emailed to this group who remember people in their prayers. The Union Church intercessors include people who have left Hong Kong, thus the prayer chain

provides global coverage. If you feel called to join the Union Church Prayer Chain please let us know. Throughout the year opportunities are held to learn more about prayer and become more effective at praying.

This past year saw the prayer chain fielding over 200 prayer requests, praying with people at Union Church after services or during church events, and even holding an overnight prayer vigil in June 2013.

"Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord." James 5:13-14

Prayer is central to our relationship with God. It is a conversation, a communion with Him. God delights to hear our voices and our prayers. Prayer can be passionately intercessory or quietly meditative. The Bible teaches that "the prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective". As a Prayer Ministry team, we are privileged to come alongside you in prayer. We encourage people to contact us with prayer requests or come and serve with us if they have a passion for prayer.

Email: prayer@unionchurchhk.org.

Educate

Assistant Pastor's Report by Matthew Fredericks



The volunteers and staff of Union Church brought to first fruition our mission to “make mature followers in all nations for Jesus Christ” by encouraging all ages to walk in the knowledge and the way of Christ through church-wide education.

The crèche ministry led by Adele Yip cared for children less than three years of age during the Sunday morning services. Judy Hon coordinated the Playgroup for babies and toddlers, to support Hong Kong parents in raising healthy, happy children. Kingdom Kids children’s ministry, led by Ting Guevarra-Small and Elza Wong (in

partnership with committed parents and volunteers), employed story-based lessons from and about the Bible to help children three to ten years of age experience the love of God.

Ryan Williams, Brenna Dykman, and their volunteers hosted Sunday school for ages 11-18, and built the Friday night “U’t’h” programme as an accepting, fun environment to grow in faith.

Matthew, alongside a team of speakers, worship leaders, and small group leaders, organised Oasis for young adults to be with Christian friends and with Christ.

The Well provided thirty lectures where adults were challenged to consider carefully the message, history, and practice of Christianity. The cumulative efforts of volunteers and staff in education summoned every age to grow in the knowledge, love, and service of our Lord Jesus Christ.

“...encouraging all ages to walk in the knowledge and the way of Christ...”

-MATTHEW FREDERICKS, ASSISTANT PASTOR

Children's Ministry by Ting Guevarra-Small

It was a year of great family memories as we reached out to our community. We provided venues for our children to celebrate togetherness as a church, and also to invite their friends into our fellowship. Meanwhile, our teachers and volunteers joined other child educators and ministers in the city for training.



Our **Sunday School** continued to thrive at similar levels to the previous year, with around 150 students and 40 teachers. This stability reflected our commitment to serve throughout the year, marking the second year of our summer **Sunday School Lite** programme; and our faithfulness as a

team, with Ting Guevarra-Small, Director; Elza Wong, Intern; Adele Yip, Crèche Manager and Rina Tan, COM Representative.



This year, we focused on major events that expanded our reach as well as deepened our relationships. Around 100 children, including scholars from Inner City Ministries, joined our **Vacation Bible School: Kingdom Rock**, where they experienced bible stories that showed us how to stand strong for God. We had help from over 45 adult and youth volunteers, half of whom are new to our ministry, or even to Union Church.

Our staff and volunteers had remarkable training and equipping opportunities that enabled us to connect with our peers in Hong Kong. In September, we sponsored a **Teaching Lab, Connecting Kids to Christ**, along with Island ECC and ICA, conducted by distinguished workshop leaders from the U.S. We had a record attendance of 240 volunteers from 15 churches. Later we joined the Children's Prayer Ministry Network's **Understanding Children With Special Needs Conference** and Viva's **Child Protection Training**.

Ting also had the honour to join RZIM's (Ravi Zacharias International Ministries) pilot **Apologetics Training Programme** held at the Hong Kong University. Thirty professionals from various fields were selected to join classes conducted by Oxford University's Centre for Christian Apologetics, for the first time in Asia! In October, we welcomed nearly 200 of our children and their friends from Union Church Playgroup and Small World Christian Kindergarten to our **Hallelujah Party at the Circus**. It was a wonderful time of fun and fellowship, and over 40 guest families signed up to show interest in our church programmes.

In December, our children rendered an inspirational telling of the Christmas story in present-day Hong Kong through **MTR to Bethlehem**, a play written by Ting. Our Worship Director, Chris Yorks, and our Playgroup Coordinator, Judy Hon, taught two sets of casts, totalling 130 children, catchy songs that joyfully punctuated our holiday memories and devotions this year. Off-stage, Gavin Coates' distinctive illustration of the story has raised thousands of dollars for our church's outreach programmes. Indeed, the generous sharing of talent by our staff, volunteers and children, helped many experience the story of Jesus Christ's coming down for us, come alive in their hearts.

We are humbled by the Lord's sustaining grace through our committed volunteers and families who partnered with us throughout the year. Indeed, his hand was made apparent in mighty and unexpected ways. We are looking forward to His guidance and faithfulness in raising our children to be an integral part of our church family and in leading them to reach out beyond our community.

“It was a year of great family memories as we reached out to our community.”

-TING GUEVARRA-SMALL, CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR



Youth Ministry by Ryan Williams and Brenna Dykman

Union Church's Youth Ministry exists to develop life-long disciples of Jesus Christ who love God with all their heart, soul, and mind, and who love their neighbours as themselves.



2013 has been a full and exciting year for Union U'th. This was a year of transition as many of our families and youth moved on to new chapters of their lives. We give thanks for their time at Union. At the same time as we rejoice in the many new faces that have become a part of our youth programme. Through different outreach events, such as a double junk boat trip, kayaking, movie nights, airsoft, and cooking lessons, many new youth are coming to know Christ.

Other major highlights from 2013 include, a successful mission trip to Jinan, Shandong Province, China in April. Twenty-one youth and seven adults spent a week learning about servant ministry as they partnered with Christ's Love Social Centre to learn about at risk and special needs children in China. The youth worked to

help improve the condition of the Centre doing maintenance work and painting a beautiful mural. The Youth Ministry program is also proud to share that this year thirteen students successfully walked through Union Church's baptism/confirmation course and were baptised/confirmed on Youth Sunday. The fall/autumn was an exciting time for the Union U'th programme as we welcomed Brenna Dykman as the Youth Ministry co-Director. Together Brenna and Ryan put on a Jr. High and Sr. High youth retreat, took youth to RESOUND, and held the most successful Christmas Banquet, raising \$148,255 for missions in 2014, which will include a trip to Cambodia.

We are excited to see what God will do with Union's Youth Ministry in 2014. We are committed to see the future growth of our students as they mature in their relationship with Jesus Christ and find joy in the gospel. We invite you to join the journey of faith our students are on!

“Through different outreach events ... many new youth are coming to know Christ.”

**-RYAN WILLIAMS & BRENN
DYKMAN, YOUTH MINISTRY CO-
DIRECTORS**

The Well by Matthew Fredericks

The Well was Union Church's primary adult education venue in 2013. Jesus Christ stated that the greatest commandment in scripture is to "Love the Lord your God with all our heart, soul, strength, and **mind** (Mark 12:30)." The Apostle Peter declared: "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a **reason** for the hope that you have (1 Peter 3:15)." These commands underscore the critical importance of a consenting, active mind to the Christian walk.



Maize, Morgan Jackson, Dr. Ron Choong, Wendell Karson, Dr. Edmund Kwok, Dr. Christopher Fung, William Yu, Dr. Kim Kwong Chan, Dr. Greg Anderson, and Matthew Fredericks. They lectured on topics/theologians such as Martin Luther, Saint Francis, C.S. Lewis, Capitalism and Christianity, Prayer, the Sabbath, Interfaith Dialogue, Christianity in China, the Holy Spirit, Creation Care/ the Environment, Suffering, Hong Kong Church History, Jesus' Humour, Christianity in the Media, Christ and Culture, Pilgrimage, and Christian Architecture.

The average attendance was 31 participants. In 2013, the Well assisted congregants to make wiser contributions to family, small group, workplace, and classroom conversations on God's word, Christian history, and the reasons for faith.

The Well provided small group leaders, church leaders, and inquisitive minds at Union with theological resources through **thirty** lectures. A twenty-minute, interactive Q&A period followed every lecture. Lecturers included Jackie Pullinger, Nury Vittachi, Dr. Howard Marshall, Dr. Michael Ramsden, Keith Bradsher, Rev. Peter Harris, Dr. Jan Depner, Rob Lilwall, Willem Jan de Hek, Eunice Seng and Koon Wee, Ho Yin Lee, Rev. Eric So, Dr. Richard Fredericks, Xiangwei Wang, Francis Yip, Peter

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that you have"

-1 PETER 3:15

Oasis by Matthew Fredericks

Oasis was Union's primary vehicle for young adult ministry in 2013. Hong Kong is often competitive and stressful for young professionals and Oasis created a space for friendship, study, and worship. Designed for young adults 18 and up, Oasis gathered at 7:30pm every Wednesday for refreshments and 8-9pm for prayer, music, lecture and discussion. Oasis speakers and leaders invited participants to explore a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.



Speakers included Mike Powers, Charles Caldwell, Elijah Bowdre, Robert Whitehead, Barbara Whitehead, Rev. Dan Williams, Ewan Copeland, Dr. Simon Ng, John Jamison, Dr. Chip Hardwick, Richard Harris, Terri Appel, Raquel Hopton, Steven Kim, Helen Harris, Ray Warhola, Lawrence Tuck, Andrew Chua, Danny Lever, Perry Lam, Enoch Ho, Rev. Ashok Andrews, Dr. Greg Anderson, Dr. Richard Fredericks, Matthew Fredericks, Rob Lilwall, Christine Lilwall, and Kyle Koster from fields as diverse as finance, business,

medicine, law, education, ministry, architecture, and entertainment. Attendance averaged 25. Speakers shared their ideas on how Christianity relates to daily life.

“Hong Kong is often competitive and stressful for young professionals and Oasis created a space for friendship, study, and worship.”

-MATTHEW FREDERICKS, ASSISTANT PASTOR

Beyond Oasis, young adults at Union gather in small groups. Adrian and Angie Wong led the “Red Group” on Saturday, Eric Fung and Crystal Lo led “Middle C” on Tuesday, Joshua Ng and Citrine Ho continued a vibrant Sunday small group, Willem Jan de Hek and Adrienne Simons founded the “United Nations” group on Friday, and Matthew Fredericks and Adrienne Chiu founded a study on Sunday. In the field, Adrian and Angie Wong led two service trips to Mongolia. These events and groups built community and increased an understanding of Christ's Gospel.

Evangelise

Senior Pastor's Report by Greg Anderson



This year we discovered Union's statement of faith. It affirmed how important "winning men [and women] to faith" and "divine worship" were and are to our congregation. 2013 provided all sorts of opportunity for witness and worship. In January we welcomed Lee-Ann McFarlane as our Missions Director. She has reorganised our Mission Committee and has helped us find a focus on the 30 per cent of our budget that goes to mission efforts. Pastor Matthew continues to work on ways to help us reach beyond our walls. He has redoubled his focus on our young adults.

We continue to rejoice in the quality and quantity of worship at Union. Chris Yorks and his 120 volunteers have had a banner year. The youth musical "MTR to Bethlehem," The Choir Cantata, and the Sunday by Sunday excellence of our worship teams are most appreciated.

Please enjoy these reports and join one of our Evangelism ministries, be it Alpha, Missions or Worship.

Alpha by Patrick Wilson

In 2014, we ran Alpha Courses in April and October and over 60 guests and leaders completed the courses. It has been exciting to see lives being changed, new friendships being made and broken relationships restored through people experiencing the Holy Spirit; and it has been encouraging to witness several guests receive baptism as a result.



Our next course is planned for March 2014; please remember that the most effective way to encourage new guests is through a personal invitation.

I would like to thank our Core Team members, group leaders and helpers, taskforce members, church staff and food donors who have all contributed so much to the success of Alpha this past year. Finally, we thank God for His faithfulness and give Him the glory for all He has done in our lives.

“It has been exciting to see lives being changed, new friendships being made and broken relationships restored through people experiencing the Holy Spirit.”

-PATRICK WILSON, ALPHA COURSE ADMINISTRATOR



We had a couple of new initiatives this year. In August, a group of 6 took part in Union's first Global Alpha Training event in General Santos, Philippines when we trained 20 pastors working with ICM in how to run Alpha as a pilot project. The event was well received and new courses are now being planned by the pastors in their communities. The following month, we ran a training session for Faith Community Church as they wanted to start running Alpha once again.

Missions by Lee-Ann McFarlane

As the new Missions Director, it was a privilege to watch many congregational members give generously, travel to Mongolia, Cambodia, China, Philippines, and reach out to their neighbours in Hong Kong to fulfill the great commission.

The ministry of Flourishing Future in Mongolia continues to thrive as they help vulnerable families in the ger district. In April, six Union ladies braved the cold for a short trip to Ulaanbaatar, followed by a team of five in July, who helped run a summer camp for children from the city. 50 people also attended a successful fundraiser dinner at Union Church in April for Flourishing Future raising a further HK\$106,000 in support of the ministry. With a focus on Mongolia, Missions partnered with Faith Comes By Hearing (FCBH) by funding Proclaimers for Mongolian pastors. FCBH's goal is to make the gospel available to the world's 70% oral learners.



Our congregation once again rallied around Missions in Cambodia. In support of the children's home we fund in Phdau Penn, a family trip was organized in June with 34 people visiting homes run by Four Square Children of Promise (FCOPI). A book drive was coordinated prior to the trip and the team ended up carrying over 20 bags of donated books to create a library for the children! A congregational offering of HK\$92,277 was taken during the year to help subsidise rice production, which supplies the 106 FCOPI orphan homes around the country, and in October, Union generously gave another HK \$372,000 to renovate children's homes badly affected by heavy rains and flooding.

Missions is delighted to be partnering with the Lutheran Theological Seminary in supporting four students from Myanmar and Cambodia. The students continue to build relationships with Union Church by attending services and assisting in the various ministries.



In the Philippines, there was a strong focus on disciple-making in 2013. As well as partially funding the building of the Men's Dormitory at the T'boli Bible School, Mindanao, we continued our sponsorship of 25 students attending Shekinah Bible College. Moreover, several Union members attended and celebrated the graduation of sponsored students from Bawing community in April. In August, Patrick Wilson and an Alpha leadership team of five travelled to General Santos, in conjunction with International Care Ministries (ICM) to host a Global Alpha Training weekend for 20 pastors.



When the super Typhoon devastated parts of the Philippines in November, Union Church once again showed great support for those affected by raising HK\$161,231 for Kids Ministry International and ICM, who responded with immediate assistance of fresh water, food and medical supplies. Union Church also collaborated with Crossroads Foundation and contributed over 100 hygiene and kitchen relief kits for victims of the typhoon.

In China, we continue to support the work of SALT, who develop Bible curriculum for Chinese pastors, as well strengthening our relationship with International China Concern (ICC). In 2012, Missions began a partnership with ICC, funding a home for abandoned, disabled girls in Heng Yang, Hunan. In December 2013, several families travelled to Heng Yang and had a joyful weekend getting to know some of the children in care. 43 people also took part in an ICC Walk-the-Wall event in Hong Kong to raise funds and awareness for local NGO.



In addition to overseas missions, Union Church continues to be actively involved and financially supportive of local outreach in Hong Kong too.

Every month, individuals and teams from Union willingly volunteer at St Barnabas, serving Hong Kong's elderly poor; at Chung King Ministries serving refugees and the homeless, and at Inner City Ministry, tutoring and teaching Bible lessons to vulnerable Nepalese children. This year, eleven people also committed to Saturday prison ministry with Kun Sun Association.

fundraiser dinner for Inner City Ministry, attended by over 70 people. We also organised two drives for donated clothing, household items and toys, and the congregation gave wholeheartedly in support of Christian Action's ongoing work with refugees and Fuk Lam Church's ministry to vulnerable families in Yau Ma Tei.

It was a busy and productive year for Missions. Our hope for 2014 is that even more of the congregation will have the joyous opportunity to engage our world through serving, giving and going.



Youth With a Mission (YWAM) faithfully continues their outreach, Son's and Daughters, to workers in Wanchai's Red Light District and in December, 27 people joined the "Baking Cookies for a Cause" to create Christmas gift bags for the workers.

Missions also hosted several awareness-raising events - a simulated Blind Experience at Crossroads attended by 22 people, a missions movie evening which jointly highlighted the ministry of Christian Solidarity Worldwide and what's happening in North Korea, and finally another

"Our hope for 2014 is that even more of the congregation will have the joyous opportunity to engage our world through serving, giving and going."

-LEE-ANN MCFARLANE, MISSIONS DIRECTOR

Worship by Chris Yorks

*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)*

We had much to be thankful for in 2013. It was a year of worship, fellowship, training, and new initiatives for Union's music ministries. Thank you all for your support and inspiration throughout 2013!

Worship services

The **8:30AM Communion Service** is in its fourth year, averaging around 25 people. It continues to bless a committed group of members and guests who are nourished on a weekly basis. We continue to see interest and growth in this worship with new volunteers offering their time and talent. This service is a joy to work with in its weekly celebration of the Lord's Supper.

The **9:30 AM Traditional Service** goes from strength to strength, thanks to Forrest, Janice, and our gifted Choir. Blest be the tie that binds! The sense of community and commitment is nurtured through the common goals of worship, fellowship, and excellence in music. The Advent Cantata continues to be a highlight with the presentation of *"Sing with the Angels"*. This year we were also treated to a full orchestral accompaniment! Highlights for 2013

also included an Easter brass quartet, Induction Services for Pastor Matthew and Pastor Michele, children's participation in worship through song and liturgy, and Jazzy Christmas with our very own "Union Gospel Choir" and instrumental ensemble arranged by Tim Wilson. We are grateful for all our instrumentalists and singers who share their time and talent to the glory of God. If you sing or play an instrument, you are welcome to join us in 2014!

Our **11:00AM Contemporary Service** continues to grow and increase with new singers and players. We are ever blessed with the commitment and excellence of their singing and playing. Our worship leaders and team of volunteers continue to expand our horizons with new songs and styles of worship.

The "Sky's the Limit" Jr. High Youth Band started up in September. What a blessing to see our youth enter into worship leading! They also played and sang for the youth Christmas Banquet. It was a year of fellowship and training events for our worship leaders, with both in-house workshops and other conferences building up our worship leading skills. We also enjoyed Union's fourth annual Christmas Musical, as we journeyed together on the "MTR to Bethlehem" thanks to a joint effort on the part of the Children's Ministry team and Worship Ministry. It was a huge success thanks to our many volunteers!

Another highlight was “Carols on the Green”, with a festive brass quintet and dramatic monologues highlighted by fellowship and candlelight during the Christmas season.



The **U Café** service meets simultaneously with the 11:00AM service in the Fellowship Hall. Led by a gifted team of musicians and coordinators, the attendance has grown, averaging around 118 people on a Sunday. U Café would not be possible without the efforts of 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! We now have a consistent pastoral presence in U Café as well, thanks to Pastor Michele and Pastor Matthew. May U Café continue to thrive in 2014!

The **5:00 PM Evening Service** continues to be led by gifted teams of musicians and worship leaders. We continue to see a number of new visitors and attendees changing the face of this established worship. We also featured special guests and new worship experiences last year

including community worships during the Christmas and Easter Fairs, a Taizé worship of meditation and prayer, our induction services, and Carols on the Green for Christmas. We also enjoyed food and fellowship during the summer BBQ and Thanksgiving dinner! Look for more variety and experiences in 2014! Our 5:00pm service continues to be an integral worship service for Union Church.

Music Makers took a break in the autumn and recommenced in October in preparation for “MTR to Bethlehem”. We had fun with all aspects of music and worship during that time. Music Makers will continue as we learn about music, notation, rhythm, and singing in 2014!

“It was a year of worship, fellowship, training, and new initiatives for Union’s music ministries. Thank you all for your support and inspiration throughout 2013!”

-CHRIS YORKS, WORSHIP DIRECTOR

Filipino Ministry by Ruth Tablada

Mission Involvement

In October, eight members from the Filipino Ministry joined with Union's team to go on the International China Concern "Walk the Wall". We praise God for the privilege to assist and help our Missions Director during the pre-Christmas Fun and Trade Fair. On 25 December, after an one-hour orientation, we led 33 international Chinese Students from Europe, Canada, USA and Australia in an outreach to the Filipino Overseas Workers in Central. It was indeed a fruitful outreach that day. The Filipino Community that gathers mostly in Central welcomed them warmly. We had distributed 300 gospel tracts with the Christmas Message of God's love. We will always intentionally and passionately "Declare His glory among the nations, His marvellous deeds among all peoples" I Chronicles 16: 24



"Give thanks to the Lord. For he is good; His love endures forever."

-PSALM 118:29

Ministry of Prayer

Indeed, nothing is impossible with God! When a woman with a long time allergy problem came to ask for prayer of healing, her hands were reddish. She could not sleep well due to the itching. Prayer of healing was offered, and that week after the prayer she was healed. She said, "Jesus is my healer"! One of our leaders, a Bible Study teacher, was diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer. She was scheduled for surgery in Hong Kong but decided to have it done in the Philippines. We prayed that God would change her condition. She had her surgery in the Philippines in December and the result was benign. Glory to God! These are many healings and answered prayers that we received from our loving God in the year 2013. "...because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world." I John 4:4

Therefore we will always "Give thanks to the Lord. For he is good; His love endures forever." Psalm 118:29

Administration

Property by Rosanna Chan

2013 has been a relatively quiet year with no major renovations or repairs. This was partly due to the pending discussion on the future of our premises. We spent approx. 55% of our budgeted \$450,000 for the year.

of the rest of the expenses were on regular maintenance work.

This year, our neighbour St Paul's Co-educational College was undergoing major renovations, which caused a few inconveniences for us. These were resolved quickly and amicably. Their construction will come to an end by the end of January 2014.

The Property Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped with maintaining our church this year. We have been blessed with good contractors who have treated us with integrity and generosity. We are especially grateful to Josephine, our church office staff and our janitors. Most of all, we are thankful to our Gracious God who has protected and guided us throughout the year.

One of the major expenses this year was for plumbing as our main sewage drainpipe is over 40 years old and much of it is fractured or dislocated. In addition to a number of repairs, we also replaced the section that is directly behind the Sanctuary toilets to help reduce blockage. Another major expenditure is on our air conditioners as many of them are over 10 years old resulting in many repair calls and several replacements.

With the arrival of Pastor Michelle, Pastor Matthew and our new Missions Director, we have had to purchase some new furniture. We also replaced all our old and broken folding tables with some light aluminium ones. Much

“Most of all, we are thankful to our Gracious God who has protected and guided us throughout the year.”

-ROSANNA CHAN, PROPERTY COMMITTEE



Stewardship by Steven Kim

Giving Back!

Stewardship is realising that all we possess is a gift from God, all we possess belongs to God, and all we possess is to be used to serve and glorify God.

Words cannot adequately express our gratitude for your financial giving; it keeps the operations of the church going so that we can continue our spiritual outreach to our church family, our community in Hong Kong and beyond.

The Committee of Management understands it is our responsibility and your expectation that we act as good stewards of the treasures you entrust to us. We continue to track our revenue and expenses every month and adjust where possible to maintain a balanced budget.

At the end of 2013, we saw our stewardship decrease by approximately 12 per cent on the previous year. The only true limitation to our future ministry is the generosity of our hearts and minds. The next steps are ours together.

2013 Thanksgiving Commitment Card Result

PLEDGE	NO OF PEOPLE	AMOUNT (HKD)
New	18	801,600
Existing	79	4,253,220
		5,054,820
One-off	45	1,257,850
FOHKC		
New	8	130,000
Existing	14	1,141,360
		1,271,360
GRAND TOTAL	164	7,584,030

Human Resource by Kenneth Chiang

Committee Members: Greg Anderson, Kenneth Chiang, Mike Witthoft, Steven Kim, Lily Ng McIntyre.

2013 was a milestone year. With record attendance in 2012, additional Ministry staff were added and finished their first year of service. Lee-Ann McFarlane was added as Missions Director. Pastor Matthew Fredericks was ordained and completed his first full year at Union Church. The HR committee recruited a new Youth Director, Brenna Dykman who recently finished her Masters in Divinity at Princeton Theological Seminary and had extensive experience running youth programmes in the U.S. Brenna has settled in nicely with creative programmes for the youth and a clear talent for preaching. Associate Pastor, Michele Bland has enhanced our small groups by providing leadership training to small group leaders while being instrumental in pastoral care. Chris Yorks has recruited several angel volunteers to help him recruit, coordinate and organise the volunteer worship team which has expanded significantly since last year. Union Church's Children's Ministry has thrived under Ting Guevarra-Small and Elza Wong, Children's Ministry Intern and Adele Yip, Creche Manager.

In 2013, we introduced several new management initiatives. First, we have formalised the review process completing a mid-year and written year-end reviews for the staff. Second, Perry Lam of the LAM Institute

continued with the Online Emergenetics® assessment to enable the Ministry team and staff to gain a better self-awareness of their individual thinking preferences and communications style with the goal to enhance their overall communications and teamwork. Third, dedicated management training during the year, allowed for Union Church's staff to provide constructive feedback to senior management on how to more effectively manage the church, thereby providing bi-directional feedback. Finally, we have completed a final draft of an HR Manual which we expect to be implemented in 2014 following legal and final review.

The church administration was reorganised in the beginning of 2013 along direct functional lines by elimination of the Church Manager role. Thus far the feedback has been positive and seems to have yielded better results.

2014 is expected to be a busy year for the HR committee if the BUFF project for relocation goes through as there will be a lot of changes at Union Church. We look forward to updating you on the upcoming challenges and the progress next year and thank God and the congregation for the privilege of serving Union Church.

The Union Church Team



NAME	POSITION	JOB INTRODUCTION
The Rev. Dr. Greg Anderson	Senior Pastor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping the diverse parts of Union united • Head of staff • Primary Preacher • Represents Union to wider community
The Rev. Michele Bland	Associate Pastor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomes and integrates visitors into the life of the church • Nurtures believers to disciples • Provides pastoral care and prayer support
The Rev. Matthew Fredericks	Assistant Pastor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leads/Organises Oasis & The Well • Manages Missions & Youth Ministry • Secondary Preacher • Staff Liaison with Alpha
Mr. Chris Yorks	Worship Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designs and coordinates worship services • Serves as Worship Leader and support to volunteers • Directs children’s music and instrumental activities

NAME	POSITION	JOB INTRODUCTION
Mrs. Ting Guevarra-Small	Children's Ministry Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsible for programmes for children between 0 to 10 years old
Ms. Adele Yip	Creche Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsible for the care of babies under two years old on Sundays
Miss Elza Wong	Children's Ministry Intern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assists programmes for the Children's Ministry and Playgroup
Miss Judy Hon	Playgroup Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handles all matters related to playgroup, from lesson planning to classroom teaching
Mr. Ryan Williams	Youth Co-Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Ministry Programming
Ms. Brenna Dykman	Youth Co-Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Ministry Programming
Ms. Lee-Ann McFarlane	Missions Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missions Ministry Programming
The Rev. Ruth Tablada	Filipino Ministry Pastor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastor for the Filipino Congregation. Provides counselling, Shelter-Pastoral care, and discipleship
Ms. Anita Au	Executive Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistant to the Senior Pastor
Ms. Bonnie Yan	Business Administrator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handles church accounting matters
Ms Josephine Lee	Office Administrator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General administration & church operations support
Ms. Zarifa Li Ms. Karen Lee Ms. Jessica Mak	Administrative Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General administration & church operations support
Ms. Anita Au	Wedding Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-ordinates wedding booking & arrangement process Facilitates ceremony arrangement on wedding day
Ms. Winnie Yuen Mr. Ming Chan Mr. John Tam (Yau)	Janitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take care of the maintenance & cleaning of the church compound Perform & maintain the overall church housekeeping duties

The Union Church Family



19 ADULT BAPTISMS

1. Chan, Pablo
2. Ho, Belinda
3. Ho, Jenny
4. Hon, Judy
5. Huang, Shin Judy
6. Maddess, Margie
7. Su, Steven
8. Borgeest, Adrian
9. Chan, Connie Mei
10. Cheong, Justin
11. Chiang, Wendy
12. Goh, Julie
13. Gunawan, Hartono
14. Lau, Jenny
15. Li, Chair
16. Satjachaianon, Winnie Patchara
17. Shimazaki, Matthew
18. Villamor, Marisa "Michelle"
19. Wai, Samson

9 YOUTH BAPTISMS

1. Gin, Isabelle
2. Landes, Jocelyn
3. Landes, Michael
4. Magloire, Christian
5. Tesluk, Ceilidh
6. Tesluk, Zachary
7. Toh, Boon-Ee
8. Weathington, Cade
9. Wu, Thomas



6 CHILDREN BAPTISMS

1. Cho, Nicholas Min-Suh
2. Lau, Benjamin
3. Wai, Claire
4. Wai, Kate
5. Vart, Joshua Evert
6. Song, Jonathan

50 FUNERALS

4 CONFIRMATIONS

1. Au, Athena
2. Basaria, Christine
3. Chan, Justin
4. Serevina, Olivia



8. Margaret Yeung
9. David, Loretta, Samantha & Olivia Van Honk
10. Joe & Lisa Allbright
11. Therese Necio-Ortega
12. Seng Yeow Ong
13. Timothy & Martha Agabas
14. Julie & Solimini Anthony Carmicho
15. Elvira Domingo
16. Sonia Roldan

53 WEDDINGS

1. Shawn Zhang & Jessie Zhang
2. Adam Karp & Jocelyn Cho
3. Varut Vardhanabhuti & Yan Yu
4. Adrian Borgeest & Michelle Villamor

4 CHILDREN DEDICATIONS

1. Hexter, Izac Young
2. Chan, Cheuk Hymn Decimus
3. Papadopoulos, Isabelle Maria Delores
4. Cheung, Olive Tricia

6 NEW MEMBERS

1. Grindle, Clayton
2. Henderson, Gus
3. Henderson, Rosemary
4. Borgeest, Adrian
5. Villamor, Michelle
6. Yu, Yan

REGULAR ATTENDEES LEFT HONG KONG

1. David Pomies
2. Geoffrey, Sarah & Henry Green
3. Ian, Marion, Heather & Kieran Moore
4. Pieter, Selvi & Anna van der Schaft
5. Andrew, Jessica & Izac Hexter
6. Brian, Whitney & Marea Collins
7. Percy, Connie, Sammi & Ariel Wong



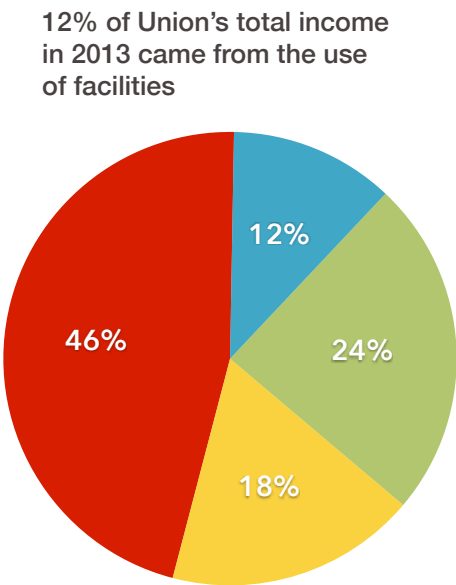
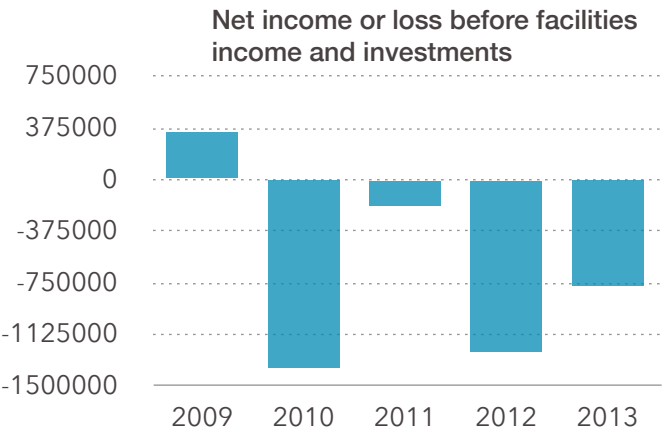
Treasurer's Report

by Lily Ng McIntyre

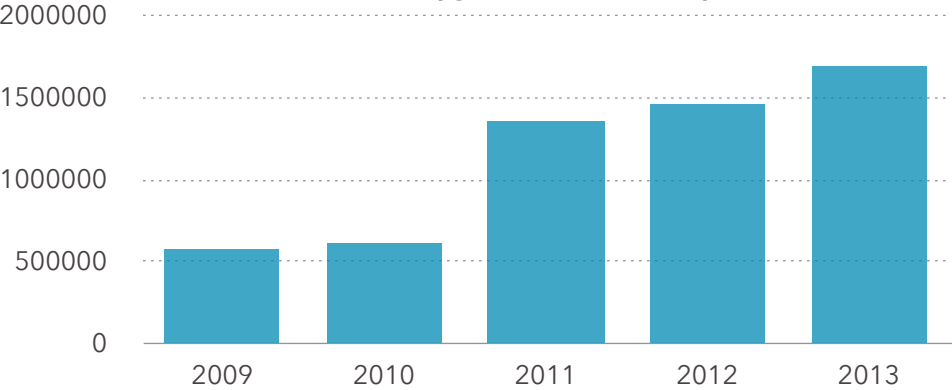
It is the practice of the church to be prudent and cautious in matters of Stewardship and especially with how the monetary gifts from God entrusted by our congregation, are managed. Annually we attempt to raise Stewardship awareness and plan the following year based on pledges that people are moved to make.

When the budget was prepared last year, there was sufficient uncertainty in economic conditions to warrant caution, and plans were made for 2013 accordingly. Even so, through God's grace, the decline in donation income was not as deep as expected, and income from the use of the church facilities further contributed to the financial health of the church. Without the income that comes from utilising the church building, Union operated on a loss in 2013, similar to the last four years. 12% of Union's total income in 2013 came from the use of facilities.

- Use of facilities \$1,692,215
- General donations \$3,476,103
- Sunday offering \$2,579,287
- Pledge offering \$6,653,215



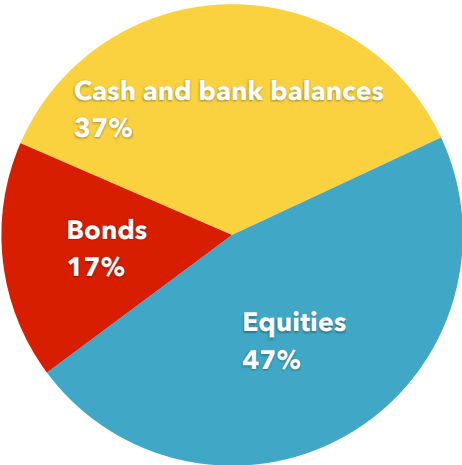
Facilities income from weddings/funerals and the playgroup for the past 5 years has increased



Union’s long history is marked by similar situations: times of need and times of plenty. Due to the wisdom of those who went before us, Union has funds administered by Trustees and the COM. In 2013, the income from these funds was \$621,866 reflecting a 4% return on a portfolio that can readily access or be converted into cash, should the need arise.

Over the last year, Union’s people also contributed generously for the expansion of God’s kingdom through Missions. In addition to direct giving of 15% by the church, the congregation rose to give \$1,041,868 more, totalling \$3,203,118 for missions giving across multiple ministries in many geographies. This is God’s people at work, answering His call.

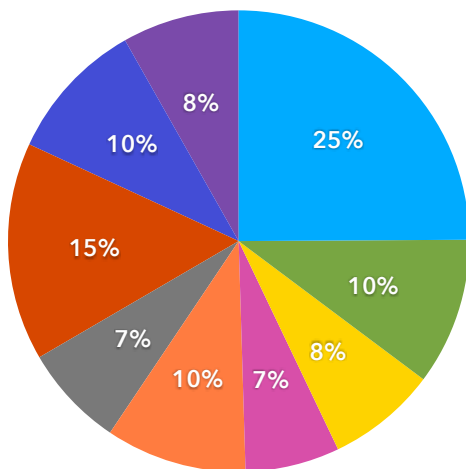
Asset Breakdown



Within ministry areas, program spending was reduced overall despite selective increases in specific areas: small groups, children and the continued development of young professionals ministry.

The generosity of the congregation and our volunteers made it possible to hold even more programmes and special events than before. A breakdown of church expenses follows:

2013 Ministries Spending



		AMOUNT
1	Worship Ministry	301,448
2	Children's Ministry	124,821
3	Encouragement Ministry	93,026
4	Youth Ministry	80,077
5	Adult Ministry (The Well and Oasis)	119,681
6	Filipina Ministries	87,000
7	Family in Need Fund	185,000
8	Christian & Missionary Alliance	120,000
9	Communications and Broadcasting	99,230
		1,210,283

Expenses Table

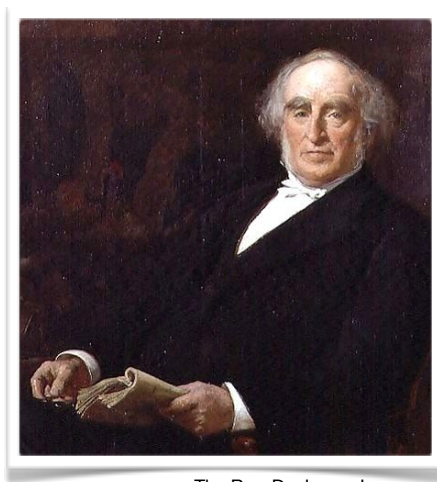
		AMOUNT (HKD)
Facilities		1,083,248
Staff		8,092,110
Office		479,349
Building Union For the Future Expenses		765,289
		10,419,996

A Brief History

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

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 Legge Lectures have been named in memory of James Legge.



The Rev. Dr. James Legge

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

In 1890, the church was moved stone by stone to the present Kennedy Road site. Meanwhile the Chinese service became a sister church, Hop Yat, which has produced over 1000 daughter churches. Union’s only daughter church is Kowloon Union (1924).

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



Union Church on Staunton Street (c.1868)

most intriguing thesis is that it was used to rebuild Government House especially the Japanese tower.)

The survivors began fund-raising and the existing fellowship hall was built in 1949, then used for worship until the sanctuary was finished in 1955. The education annex was built in 1970 and later named after the 1977 death of the Rev. Dennis Rogers, perhaps the most significant 20th century Union pastor.



The Annex and the Bell Tower

Since the handover in 1997, Union has changed from a predominately European expatriate congregation to a church that is 60% Asian. Union has gained a reputation for strong lay leadership and launching new ministries (Alpha, Emmaus) that have greatly blessed the wider community.

Gregory Anderson, arriving in 2007, is Union's 21st senior pastor. Michele Bland is Union's 3rd associate pastor, and Matthew Fredericks is the 2nd assistant pastor; Ruth Tablada is the 1st pastor to the Filipino fellowship.



First non-royal to be depicted on a HK postage stamp

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

Acknowledgement

We thank God for providing us with these wonderful people:

All the ministry leaders who wrote the reports.

Office Staff: Karen Lee (for her effort in putting together this report!), Bonnie Yan, Anita Au, Josephine Lee and Jessica Mak.

Editors: Linda Yeung, Paul Wenham, Matthew Fredericks, Brenna Dykman and Sneha Mathew.

Page layout and design: Po Cheung

Cover: Brian Woo, for his creativity and brilliance.

Photos: Brian Woo, David McIntyre and Patrick Wong and all who captured the great shots at Union.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL!

Christine Wu
(Honorary Secretary)



**BUILDING
UNION
FOR THE
FUTURE**

“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.”

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