



September 2, 2012  
Series No. 707

## The Church in Richmond Weekly Newsletter

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Please visit our church website: [thechurchinrichmond.org](http://thechurchinrichmond.org) for more updates.

### I. Announcement:

1. 2012 High School retreat, information is as follow.

Date: October 5 – 7, 2012-08-31  
Location: Lakeside Bible Camp  
Cost: \$80 USD  
Deadline: September 9, 2012  
Register with: Brother Andy Po

2012 Junior High retreat dates: Brothers: October 19 – 21, 2012 Sisters: November 2 – 4, 2012-08-30 Registration details to follow later.

2. On September 9<sup>th</sup> (Lord's Day) after the meeting, there will be a love feast and fellowship with all the college serving ones and the parents of the college saints. Lunch will start at 12:00 noon and will end at 3:00 p.m. Please bring a dish.
3. A conference is scheduled by the church in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on September 21 (Friday night at 7:00 p.m.) to September 23 (Lord's Day noon). All the saints who desire to attend, please contact brother Albert Sayson for more details.
4. On September 16 (Lord's Day), at 1:30 p.m., a college serving ones prayer and coordination time will be held at the church in Vancouver, hall 1. All college serving ones are encouraged to attend. For those serving ones registering for the camp, this meeting is mandatory.

5. 2012 College Fall Retreat, information is as follow:

Date: September 21~23, 2012  
Location: Charis Camp & Conference Center, 51935 Hack Brown Rd, Chilliwack, BC, [www.chariscamp.com](http://www.chariscamp.com)  
Attendees: College students and high school seniors  
Cost: \$155.00 / person  
Registration: online: <http://bit.ly/qUhZwo>  
Payment to: Brother Frank Wu or brother Robin Liu  
Speaking brother: Brother Tom Goetz  
**Deadline: September 6, 2012**

6. On Sept. 23 (Lord's Day) at the Vancouver hall 1, two meetings will be held for the serving ones of children, young people and college-age saints.

The following is the schedule of the meetings:

4:30 p.m. Session 1  
6:00 p.m. Dinner  
7:00 p.m. Session 2

7. Praise the Lord! For the New Testament Recovery Version/literature distribution in the UK, to date approximately 60,000 NT Recovery Versions have been distributed, and more than 60% of the recipients have indicated a desire for further contact.

Please continue to pray:

- a. That the Lord will supply the saints and the full-timers to follow-up the Recovery Version recipients through phone calls, seminars, and personal visits.
- b. That a good number of local people will be brought into the church life.
- c. For the distribution during the Paralympic Games from 29 August to 9 September.

### II. Prayer burden:

1. Please pray for the contact with the students, especially the first-year students, at the universities in Europe in September, before classes begin in October. For the Lord's move in Frankfurt, Germany, please pray that the Lord will establish a strong and shining testimony in this important city.
2. Please pray for brother Bob Wang, brother Tong Hui Chen, sister Jane Chen, sister Helena Lee, sister May Zheng to experience the grace and healing from the Lord.
3. Please pray for the increase of 2 new districts from the present districts #1 and #3. May the Lord bless His church and strengthen His testimony.

### III. This week's pursuit:

1. HWMR – Crystallization-study of the Minor Prophets – Week 3
2. RSG (Recovery Study Group): Week 1: O.T. – Exodus 1:1 ~ 12:51 N.T. – Matt. 20:17 ~ 24:51

### IV. Offering for the meeting hall construction (as of Aug.26, 2012):

Offering Goal	Current Accumulated Offerings (\$1.5 M Loan from LM churches)	Current Disbursement			Current Balance (\$1.5 M Loan from LM churches)
		Project Fund	Security Deposit	Total Expenditure	
\$4,500,000	\$3,896,702 / <b>\$5,396,702</b>	\$4,813,986	\$210,000	\$5,023,986	- \$1,127,284 / <b>\$372,716</b>
Percentage of our Goal Achieved at present		Current Deficit			
86.59%					\$603,298

**V. Meeting attendance:**

District / Meeting		#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	English	Children Serving	Total
Lord's Day Meeting	8/26	68	51	90	24	41	20	45	12	351
Prayer Meeting	8/28	25	17	13	14	12	3	32		116

**VI. Special Announcement of Particular Service:**

1. Cleaning schedule for the week:

Service	Date	District
General cleaning	Sept. 2 ~ Sept. 8	Districts 1 and 4

Each district is in charge of cleaning its own room after every meeting.

2. Please always observe safety at the parking lot. Drivers must exercise extra care when backing out of the parking stalls and look out for small children who may not be seen through the windows and mirrors. Parents must always accompany their children and keep them out of danger.
3. For the month of September, the schedule of the culinary classes is as follow:

Date	Dishes	Time	Place
9/03	Stir fry sticky rice; sautéed soy sauce dishes	2:00 p.m.	Brown Road meeting hall
9/09	Strawberry short cake; peanut butter brittle	3:00 p.m.	
9/16	Beef noodle, braised beef; Chinese style cold salad	3:00 p.m.	
9/23	Vietnam spring roll; oyster roll	3:00 p.m.	
9/30	Meat balls; taro cake	3:00 p.m.	

Please register with sister Teresa Lee (604-278-7109; [yunghui.liu@gmail.com](mailto:yunghui.liu@gmail.com)) or sister Lisa Lin (604-233-7016; [charles.lisa@live.ca](mailto:charles.lisa@live.ca)).

**VII. This week's meeting schedule and locations:**

Date	Time	Content	Place
Tuesday (9/04)	7:30 p.m.	Church prayer meeting	Designated place of each district
Thursday (9/06)	7:30 p.m.	Home meeting	TBA
Friday (9/07)	7:30 p.m.	College saints' meeting	Brown Road meeting hall
	7:30 p.m.	Working saints' dinner and fellowship	Brother Victor Sayson's home
Saturday (9/08)	7:00 p.m.	Young people's meeting	Brown Road meeting hall
Lord's Day (9/09)	9:30 a.m.	Lord's Table & Propheying Meeting by District	Brown Road meeting hall

**\*\* Note:** The prayer meeting locations for Sept. 4, 2012:

District #1A	@ Brother Joey Su
District #1B	@ Sister Huai Bin Chen
District #2	@ Brother George Lu
District #3	@ Brown Road meeting hall

District #4	@ Brother Jonah Chang
District #5	@ Sister Rainbow Bi
District #6	@ Brother Laurence Huen
English District	@ Brown Road meeting hall

**VIII. Truth and enlightenment: *Abiding in the Lord to Enjoy His Life*, by Witness Lee, ch. 4**

**GOD PASSING THROUGH VARIOUS PROCESSES TO BECOME THE LIFE-GIVING SPIRIT**

When the Lord led me to sense my need of the Spirit, I applied special effort to carefully pursue this matter, praying and studying the Bible diligently. As a result, I saw that it was clearly revealed in the Bible and also confirmed by my experience. The Bible tells us that on the one hand, it is not enough for us merely to fear God and behave properly as good human beings; and on the other hand, it is also not enough solely to seek for power from on high to be poured upon us so that we may speak in tongues. The Bible reveals that the Triune God has a plan. In the Old Testament He did all the preparation work. Then at the beginning of the New Testament He Himself was born to be a man and lived on earth for thirty-three and a half years. Eventually, He went to the cross and was crucified there in His human body in order to bear our sins and redeem us by shedding His blood for us. He also died for us to terminate the old creation and to accomplish redemption. Then He was buried, and He rested, and on the third day He was resurrected from the dead.

In His resurrection He was transfigured from the flesh into the Spirit. This is what 1 Corinthians 15:45 means: "The last Adam became a life-giving Spirit." As such a Spirit, He is the breath, or pneuma in Greek. On the evening of the day of the Lord's resurrection, the disciples assembled in a room with the doors and windows shut for fear of persecution from the Jews. They were sorrowful because they had seen with their own eyes the arrest and crucifixion of the Lord Jesus, who had been with them in His flesh, and they also had seen Him buried in a tomb. They thought now that all was finished. It was at this juncture that the Lord Jesus came into their midst and breathed into them, saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20:22). Then He disappeared.

The Bible tells us that afterwards the Lord Jesus was with the disciples for forty days in this manner, training them to know Him as the Spirit. The disciples felt that the resurrected Jesus was truly marvelous and mysterious—suddenly He would come and suddenly He would leave; unexpectedly He would appear and unexpectedly He would disappear without any trace; yet He had a physical form. They did not understand how this could be. They were at a loss; they could not comprehend what this was all about, and they did not know what to do. This was all due to the fact that they were still ignorant concerning the Spirit, that He was now within them; and they were not clear that as the Spirit the Lord was with them and that once He came He would never leave. Sometimes the Lord would manifest His presence to them, but that was because He cared for their weakness. In this way the Lord trained them in their faith. He wanted them to know and be accustomed to His invisible presence.

To the disciples this lesson was very hard. They were already accustomed to the Lord's visible presence. When the Lord was in the flesh, they followed Him closely. They journeyed with Him, lodged with Him, and followed Him everywhere in His ministry. To them this kind of visible presence was very good; He was visible and touchable. But now He could be visible in an instant and then invisible in the next. He had resurrected, yet they could not always touch Him. Finally, one day Peter could no longer bear it. He, the head sheep of the flock, said to his brothers, "I am going fishing." They replied, "We also are coming with you." They went and got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing (John 21:2-3). Ordinarily, night is the best time for fishing, and Peter and John were experienced fishermen, but that night they caught nothing. This was because the Lord drove away all the fish by His authority. They did not catch any fish, but they did gain the Lord Jesus (v. 4).