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ESM RETREAT THEME

This year at the retreat we will reflect on change. Change is something we cannot avoid. Whether we like it or not, change always happens around us, to us and within us. Change is a natural phenomenon of life. Often we treat change as an unwanted stranger. So when change comes, we feel uncomfortable and unpleasant. Change takes us to an unfamiliar place. It takes us to the realm of uncertainty and the unknown. This creates fear within us and we have to deal with this fear. When we do not welcome the change, we do not welcome the fear that comes with the change. However, fear is not to be avoided. We should not turn our face away from fear. We should confront the fear. That is courage. Courage is not the absence of fear. Even the most courageous person will experience fear but he/she confronts it instead of running away or avoiding it.

In life, changes are bound to occur—it is inevitable. If we do not actively make changes, we will passively receive changes. If we do not control the change, the change will control us. Instead of letting change control us, we need to control the change. Once we start dealing more actively with change, we will gain insight on the dynamics of the change. We will understand change much better. We will be good at making changes. If we just passively receive changes, then we will not have a clue of how changes happen in us. We better practice making changes. The more we practice, the better we will get in making changes.

At the retreat, we will examine various aspects of change. I think this is a very good opportunity to start actively making changes in our lives. We will get to know the dynamics of change and we will have a deeper discussion about change. Spiritual change is our goal. The bible is stories of how people changed after meeting God. I hope that you all come out to the retreat and not only listen to the lecture but also have good discussions about change and reflect on your lives. Let us think about how changes occur in our lives. How do changes affect us? What can we do about changes that happen to us? What are some good ways of making positive changes?

Rev. In Kee Kim





SUMMER CAMP 2014!

THE FIRST-TIME EVER!

MONTH-LONG! LIFE-CHANGING

BY REV. DAVID SON

Simply put: one of the best months in your kids' lives! You do not want your kids to miss this year's St. Timothy Summer Camp. Your kids will be welcomed to Treasure Island, where there is a life-long treasure to be found. More precious than gold, more lasting than diamonds, it is the greatest treasure of all - God's love! At this Summer Camp of Treasure Island, your kids will play island games, create colourful crafts, enjoy tropical snacks, and have fun with other kids. But more importantly, they will discover the richest treasure in their lives - God's love through the life of Jesus Christ. Big on God's love! Big on Jesus every day! And big on fun! So come and join!

ALL THE DETAILS

- Who: Kids who have completed JK - Gr. 5
- What: Best summer camp ever! (Engaging bible lessons, games, music, snack making, crafts, recreation, taekwondo, art, band/strings, vocal/choir, French, Lego/Mindstorms, science experiments & lots of field trips!)
- When: July 7 – August 1, 9am – 3pm (After hours programs provided, 3-5 pm)
- Price: Single child (\$120/1 week, \$230/2 weeks, \$330/3 weeks, \$400/4 weeks); Sibling discount (2nd - 20%, 3rd - 40%); After Hours Program 3-5 pm (\$5/day/kid)
- Contact: Rev. David Son (donghwison@gmail.com, 416-626-1207)





YOUTH CAMP 2014!

July 7 - August 1

BY REV. JANE YOON

Last year was the first time we attempted to create a summer program for our Junior Youth, who were too old to participate in the VBS program, yet too young to be volunteering to take care of the young ones of VBS. With 20 youths participating in the program last year, along with the teachers volunteering from the YA (Young Adult) group, we explored the Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens followed by group activities to foster team-building skills. We found the learning to be both entertaining and thought provoking, not only our youth but for teachers as well.

Our youth had a wonderful time building strong friendships with one another and mentorships with their YA teachers. This year for the first two weeks of July, Youth Camp program will be provided for our students who have completed Grades 6 to 8. In the morning, we will begin with worship and once again explore the qualities of leadership (the content will be different from the previous year). They will also be exposed to stories of real-life leaders and the life-giving impact they are making in the world today, which will widen their perspective on life and deepen their understanding for people from all walks of life. Fun group activities, games and sports will also be incorporated. In the afternoon, they will be able to choose a class of their interest (ex. French, taekwondo, Art, Science Experiments, Choir/ Vocal and Band & Strings).

For the last two weeks of July, they will volunteer in the morning as a Leader-in-Training for the Summer Camp children, which will be an opportunity for them to begin cultivating leadership qualities they have learned during the first half of the program. It will be a summer filled with life learning, friendship, laughter and wonderful memories for our youth!





BURST FORTH IN HOPE

BY HEICHUNG KIM

"Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless shout with elation. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert." (Isaiah 35:5, 6)

A group of St. Tim's women from ESM and KSM with the support and encouragement of our church, families and especially our husbands, were able to attend the National Presbyterian Women's Gathering from May 16-19. In total, there were about 600 female participants as well as a couple of men! This year's theme was "Burst Forth" based on Isaiah 35:1-10.

It was a weekend full of inspiration, challenges and HOPE! And yes, we cried and laughed a lot too. Dr. Samantha Nutt, a young wife and mother, who founded the NGO, War Child Canada, inspired us. She continues to travel to dangerous zones around the world determined to raise awareness of the plight of women and children in war-torn areas. Inspiration also came from Kim Phuc, who is the 9-year old girl running naked, in the famous and unforgettable image taken during the Vietnam War. She suffered severe burns to her body when her village was bombed. As a result, she endured many operations and suffered physical and emotional scars. Yet, although it was an extremely difficult journey, she forgave those responsible for her pain and suffering. The various women leaders and attendees, from various parts of the world and Canada, were inspirational in their passion for Christ.

Along with these inspirations, we were also challenged. As Christian women, we need to step up and out beyond the boundaries of our home church and family and educate ourselves. In this way, we, ourselves, can act as leaders for the younger generation to get involved and be engaged in world and local missions to promote peace and end violence. The good news is we do not have to go too far. Programs such as the Jane Finch Reaching Up established by a church in the community show us that we can help meet needs even in our own neighbourhoods. Reaching Up is an after school program focusing on academics and music for children living in the Jane-Finch area.

Finally, I was inspired, challenged and hopeful through speaking with a woman I met at one of the workshops. She shared how the timing of the conference was at the best and worst of times for her. She runs her own landscaping business which is very busy and stressful at this time of the year. However, she decided to leave everything behind and come to the conference. She said it was the best decision she ever made. The work will still be there and she will probably have to put in longer hours when she returns but she has gained a new perspective and will go back renewed and with a sense of purpose. The challenge for her and for me was to stop, look and listen so that we can gain God's perspective. Rather than a perspective that is narrow and self-focused, God's perspective embraces the whole of creation. In a world that often seems helpless and hopeless, God is in charge and working through those who trust in His promise of a renewed and restored world. God wants us to celebrate!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- For God to be with those who are diligently planning the ESM Retreat (June 20-22).
- The South Africa Missions Team '14 led by Rev. Jane Yoon as they prepare for their journey from Aug 2-17.
- For the various church events and activities planned for the summer of 2014.
- For health and safety of our congregation members.



SERMON TITLES & SUMMARY

MAY 2014

Let us keep powerful important messages close to our hearts in the months ahead...

May 4

Speaker: Rev. In Kee Kim

Title: Living in the In-Between Times

Scripture: John 11:17-44

Summary: Our journey is not always in our control. It has its own course. But I am thankful that our journey is not in the hands of our fate or random accidents. Our journey is in the hands of God. I am not in control but God is in control. God may take us to a strange place. God may even take us to a dangerous place. But he will never leave us alone. He will guide us and ultimately change us.

May 11

Speaker: Rev. In Kee Kim

Title: All Things...

Scripture: Matthew 21:1-11

Summary: When love touches our lives, everything comes alive. Love has a magic hand that makes everything it touches alive. When love touches our lives, the space we share becomes beautiful and the time we spend together becomes sacred. Love makes our lives full. Without love, life is empty. Without love, the world we live in becomes a lonely place and we will feel very much abandoned in that empty universe. The first people who showed us love and taught us love are our parents. As they hugged us and embraced us, we felt the warm love from our parents. They have been with us all along, watching us with anxious hearts, praying for us eagerly, encouraging us and accepting us unconditionally.

May 18

Speaker: Rev. Soo Jin Chung

Title: Rejected Stone & Cornerstone

Scripture: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Summary: Jesus was rejected and abandoned by the people but God turned him into the cornerstone or capstone to save the people. We are like the rejected and abandoned stones but God picks us up and connects us with Jesus who is the capstone so that we may have life and we may find life's purpose. Furthermore, after we are connected with Jesus, we may become a capstone where needed so that other people can find life through Christ and find their life purpose and meaning.

May 25

Speaker: Rev. In Kee Kim

Title: A Very Intimate Relationship With God

Scripture: John 14: 15-21

Summary: Our relationship with God has to be pure. There has to be no other motives but just simply love for God. Everything has to come from this simple love. Our ministry has to come from this simple love. Our participation in our society has to come from this simple love. Our worship has to come from this simple love. There is no manipulation, no coercion, no calculation but just simple love for God. Jesus simply loved God and trusted God. He left everything in God's hands. He entrusted himself to God, even his life. When God did not allow the cup to pass from him, he just let it be and he took the cross as the answer for his prayer. He had absolute trust in God. And from this absolute trust in God, an intimate relationship with God became possible.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, June 1st, 2014

Women's Sunday at Beach Blast

Saturday, June 7th, 2014

Women's Gathering:
Sheraton Centre, Richmond Hill

Saturday, June 14th, 2014

Kids Church Teacher's Training
(KSM and ESM) at church

University Fair at church

Sunday, June 15th, 2014

Annual Church Picnic at church

Fri. June 20 – Sun. June 22, 2014

ESM Summer Retreat: Fair Havens
Retreat & Conference Center

EDITOR'S NOTE

BY DANIEL KIM

With June finally upon us, we as a church enter our busiest – and most exciting – time of the year. Summer comes with a myriad of events, activities, and occasions, and all of this punctuated with the annual highlight event: the ESM retreat! In the midst of all this, though, there is a day in June that is annually overshadowed at St. Timothy because it falls on the same Sunday as the yearly ESM & KSM church picnic. That day is Father's Day!

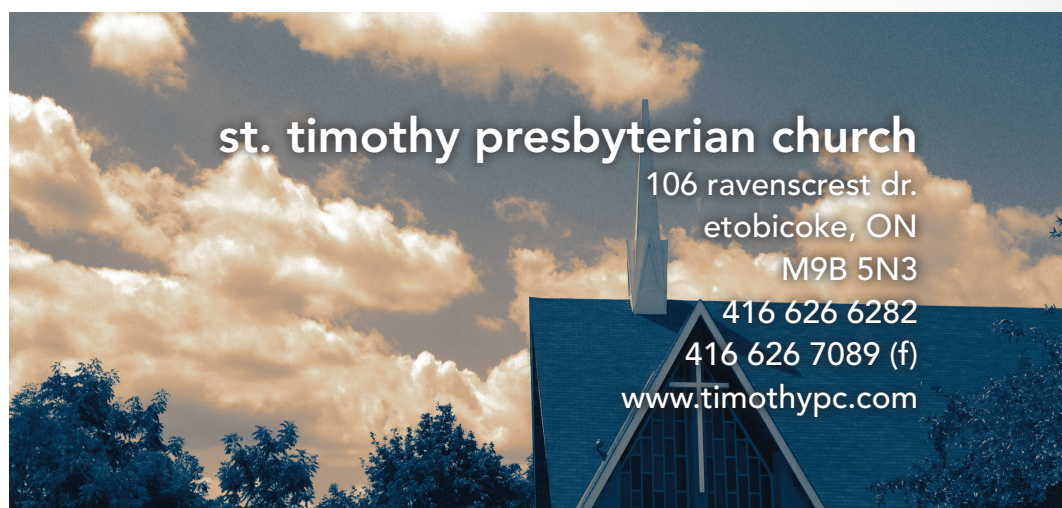
Father's Day is on June 15 this year, and although at St. Timothy we informally celebrate "Parents' Day" on Mother's Day because Father's Day coincides with the picnic, the editors of this newsletter figured that in this June edition, we ought to write a short tribute in celebration of this special day and dear fathers everywhere.

As the saying goes: "Every great man isn't a great father, but every great father is a great man". When I think about what epitomizes the perfect "father's love" at its purest form, I think about the love of our heavenly father. Indeed, we know God has more love in his heart than human beings, and thus, God's love for his children – you and me – is greater than the love we can possibly have, as earthly fathers (and mothers), for our own children.

In most cases, our earthly fathers love us very much. They will do everything in their powers to see that we are

provided with justice, protection, needs, and even our wants. And although we sometimes forget, our heavenly father is more just, protective, and desires happiness for us far more than our earthly fathers. Jesus tells us: "11 Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? 12 Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? 13 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 13: 11-13 NRSV). So if we believe what we know from these verses about our heavenly father is true – that he is very good, just, and loving toward his children – and if we believe that He desires better for His Children and wants every advantage for us more than our beloved earthly fathers, then we can rest assured that we are in good hands. And if our heavenly father does not provide us with what we ask of Him, surely we must understand and accept there is a purpose for it that is far better and greater than what we ask of Him.

As we celebrate our earthly fathers on this year's Father's Day, let us remember the root of where our fathers' love comes from. Let us honour and worship our heavenly father's love that is the epitome of the love our earthly fathers have for us.



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