

植堂天地 Harvest Field

Occasional
Number 1
January 2024



Chinese Baptist Fellowship of the United States and Canada

www.cbfusacanada.org
Box 1393, Monterey Park, CA. 91754, USA
C/O 1989 North Park Drive, Brampton, Ontario L6S 5X5, CANADA

匯光教會的開始

經過三個星期的軟開幕(Soft opening)，匯光教會正式在 2023 年 1 月 22 日為主啟航！重看一年這條滿佈恩典之路，我們心裡只有感恩，和讚嘆神的奇妙作為，充足供應，及精準時間。祂是我們的主，更是匯光教會的頭。一切榮耀都歸祂所有！

匯光教會的誕生是有幾個因素：第一，中橙縣華人浸信會是我們的母會，因為母會自己也是一間被栽植的教會，所以植堂事工一直在我們母會中多次提及。她是在 1993 年由橙縣華人浸信會的主任牧師和一群弟兄姊妹開始在中橙縣聚會設立的。第二，母會至今已發展成為 600 多人的教會，而地方和停車位也不夠用。第三，當我們看到在附近的南橙縣城市中，越來越多講廣東話的華人住在那裡，而在那邊也沒有一間廣東話的教會，教牧同工們在 2021 年開始為著這個植堂事工禱告，願神親自呼召我們出去為祂栽植教會。

經過多个月的禱告和植堂基本訓練後，感謝主的呼召，我和我一家人願意為主開始這個植堂事工。我們在 2022 年一月開始異象分享，有六個家庭願意參與我們的探索小組。我們開始資料搜集、物色聚會地方，到最後主為我們供應了一個非常好的地點。一切都是恩典！我們一開始希望在 Lake Forest 租用一些教會地方，但不得要領。然後我們詢問了幾間學校，結果不是停車問題就是地方不夠用。最後我們嘗試租用商業中心，門還是關上了。但神的計劃不同我們的計劃，我們一直為聚會地方而禱告，後來在鄰近城市找到一個商業中心，地方不大，但我們為租金的事與業主商討了很久；另一方面向地區政府申請的有條件使用許可證亦面對很多挑戰，還加上崇拜家具缺貨等雜務，一時間也不知教會甚麼時候可以開始。



但是神原來早已為我們在 Mission Viejo 準備了一個地方。The Gate Christian Bible Church 是一間白人的教會，剛好要分租他們的場地。還願意把他們的崇拜時間調早一個小時，讓我們可以在早上十時三十分開始崇拜！因為這裡已是教會，所以有條件使用許可證已經得到；地方比我們之前的地方差不多大一倍，崇拜家具亦已經齊全，一直煩擾著我們的問題一下子就解決了！而且他們也是美南浸信會的成員，在信仰教義上並沒有任何抵觸。神的帶領實在是美好！

「匯聚基督真理，光照黑暗世代」是匯光教會的標語。我們的使命宣言是向不同年齡、背景和文化的的人分享耶穌基督的福音和愛，將基督的光帶入社區。我們的五個核心價值是: 1) 廣傳福音、2) 彼此聯繫、3) 服務社區、4) 培養基督門徒、5) 透過參與宣教而增長。匯光教會是一間願意走入人群的教會，我們希望透過地區服侍把基督的愛傳開去。

我們開始時有 20 多個家庭願意一起參與匯光教會的事工！我們有廣東話和英語崇拜。感謝主！在過去一年我們舉行了三次的浸禮共有六位弟兄姊妹受浸加入教會。教會崇拜約有 120 人參加。今年(2024 年)我們繼續將焦點放在傳福音及宣教事工上。人數的增加亦帶來新的挑戰。在新的一年我們可能需要找新的地方用因為主日學不夠地方用了。在這事上我們仰望神的供應及安排。

請為我們禱告，讓福音可以在南橙縣這個地方廣傳！



陳兆鵬牧師畢業於金門浸信會神學院，自 2018 年起擔任中橙縣華人浸信會的粵語/英語牧師。2022 年教會肯定陳牧師植堂的呼召，按立並差派他在加州的 Mission Viejo 栽植匯光教會。

匯光教會 Beacon Community Church
23456 Madero, Suite 160
Mission Viejo, CA 92691
pastormartin@mybeacon.church
<http://mybeacon.church>

主日粵語崇拜: 早上十一時四十五分



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The Beginning of Beacon Community Church

Rev. Martin Chan

Beacon Community Church (BCC) was officially launch on January 22, 2023 after a three-week soft opening. As we look back on this year-long journey of grace, we can only give thanks and praise to God for His amazing work, sufficient provision, and precise timing. He is our Lord and the head of our church. To God be the glory!

The birth of the church was due to several factors: In the first place, our mother church, the Chinese Baptist Church of Central Orange County (CBCCOC) in Irvine, California, was a church planted in 1993 when the senior pastor and a group of brothers and sisters of the Chinese Baptist Church of Orange County in Anaheim. Therefore, CBCCOC has church planting in her genes. In the second place, over the years, the church (CBCCOC) grew to more than 600 members. With that numerical growth, the church encountered challenges in adequate space and parking. In the third place, we noticed that more and more Cantonese speaking people have moved to the nearby cities of South Orange County, yet there was no Cantonese speaking church there. At the beginning of 2021, the pastoral staff began praying for a church to be planted in that area and that God would call us to go for Him.

After many months of prayer and basic training for planting a church, my family and I felt called of the Lord to embark on this church planting ministry for Him. We started our vision sharing in January 2022, and six families were willing to join us in becoming a part of the exploratory team. We started gathering information, looking for a place to meet, and in the end the Lord provided a great location for us. It was all by His grace! We started out hoping to rent some church space in the Lake Forest area, but we did not get any response from the churches. Then we asked a few schools and they either had parking problems or not enough space for us to use.



Finally, we tried to rent a business unit but the door was closed. But we know God's way is always higher than ours. We kept praying for a place to meet, and then we found a commercial suite in a neighboring city, which was smaller than our envisaged need, and we had a long negotiation with the landlord about the rent. At the same time, we were facing lots of challenges getting the conditional use permit from the city; and, all the worship furniture was on back order. We really didn't know when we could launch the church.

But God had already prepared a place for us in Mission Viejo. It so happened that the Gate Christian Bible Church was trying to sub-lease their facilities and was even willing to move their service time up an hour so that we could start ours at 10:30 am! Since this was already a church, they had the conditional use permit, the space was almost double the size of our previous one, and the worship furniture was already in place. So all the problems that were bothering us were solved all at once! In addition, the church is also a member of the Southern Baptist Convention, which meant we had no conflict with their beliefs and doctrines. God's way was truly wonderful!

Be the Light! This is our tagline for Beacon Church. Our mission statement is: "Bringing the light of Christ into communities by sharing Christ's gospel and love to the people of all ages, backgrounds, and cultures." Our five core values are: 1) Share the Gospel; 2) Connect Together as a Community; 3) Serve our Neighbors; 4) Develop Followers of Jesus Christ; 5) Multiply by Engaging in Missions. We are a church that wants to reach out to people and spread the love of Christ through local services.

We started with 20 families in this ministry. We currently have more than 120 people in our Cantonese and English services each Sunday. In 2024, we will continue to focus on sharing the Gospel and missions. Praise the Lord, we had 3 baptisms in the past year and 6 brothers and sisters were added to the church. With the growth in numbers, we are also facing the challenge of not having enough space for our Sunday School classes. Our lease with the Gate Christian Bible Church ends in June 2024. As in the past, we will look to the Lord for his provision and leading.

Please pray for us and with us that we can continue to bring glory to God and may the Gospel be spread throughout South Orange County!



A graduate of Gateway Seminary, Rev. Martin Chan had served as the Cantonese/English Minister at the Chinese Baptist Church of Central Orange County since 2018. Affirming his call to plant a church, the church ordained and commissioned him in 2022 to start the Beacon Community Church in Mission Viejo, California.

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Sunday English Worship : 10:30 am

