

April 2022

Inside this issue 目錄

- 1 Introduction of the April Mini-Conference
- 2 Introduction of the Two Advisors
- 4 Timeline of Giving Thanks to God

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Introduction of the APRIL Mini-Conference

Due to the Spirit closing the door on the Board's annual spring visit to ANACEFC churches, we will host another virtual Mini-Conference to help pastors and leaders of ANACEFC churches persevere through the Pandemic.

We are excited to have a husband and wife team, Bob Li and Fay Chao, share from their hearts in this Mini-Conference.



Bob, a retired biostatistician and epidemiologist from Health Canada, will share his wisdom on how and when the Pandemic will resolve in his talk entitled "Where and when is COVID going?"

Fay Chao, who is a team member of Family Life Canada, will share her perspective on findings of opportunities and unexpected blessings during the

Pandemic.

The Mini-Conference date will be on April 30, 2022, from 10 AM to 1 PM (PDT) via Zoom (Meeting ID: 847 5734 9883; Passcode: 967099) Translations into Mandarin/English will be provided.

Scan the QR-Code or click on the [Registration Form](#) to register.



(Continued from Page 3 | 接第3頁)

曾昭陽牧師簡介

心及多間學校。在那職位上事奉至2010退休回美。

自我以教會代表的身份參加華聯會的第二次週年大會後，除在港的時間外，至今都有參與華聯會的事工。我除作了華聯會第一任的「植堂主任」外，也在不同屆別中，承擔過主席，文書，財務，及其他的職務。

除華人播道會以外，我也曾被選為美國播道會的差傳部和跨文化部的成員；亦參與羅省華人教會同工聯會多屆理事會的事奉。

我願以我在按立聚會時和廿年後退休餐會時所獻的一首詩的歌名作互勉！歌名就是『越加事主必越覺甘甜』！

Introduction of the Two Advisors

ANACEFC Advisor: Rev. Dan Wat 北美華人播道會聯會顧問：屈志宇牧師



Rev. Dan Wat was an engineer before God's calling to full-time pastoral ministry in South Calgary Chinese Evangelical Free Church, a ministry that he loved and served with passion until his retirement. After retirement, he spent time studying spiritual formation for discipleship and spiritual growth. He also researched integrating psychotherapy and Biblical spirituality in counseling, particularly in healing and personal growth.

Pastor Dan is currently serving as a spiritual director and executive director of Manna Counseling and Educational Center. The center was established and supported by several Chinese Evangelical Free Churches and other denominations in Western Canada. Their main ministries support the pastors by providing professional counseling, spiritual direction, and leading small group spiritual formation and renewal journeys. God also uses the recent pandemic to kick start the church-wide daily devotion and prayer movement that helps many brothers and sisters establish the sacred rhythm necessary to walk closer to God and life transformation. For the past ten years, God uses Pastor Dan in counseling, spiritual direction, leading workshops, leading contemplative retreats, and many spiritual formation and renewal journeys.

EFC Canada ordained Pastor Dan, and he served on the executive board of ANACEFC for a number of years. He also supported the

Ambrose Seminar in Calgary by acting as the counselor and spiritual director among the seminary students for seven years. Pastor Wat and his wife live in Calgary, Edmonton, and Toronto. They have three adult sons and four grandchildren.

屈志宇牧師簡介

屈志宇牧師曾在工程界服侍二十多年，後蒙神呼召作全時間牧養工作，曾任南卡城華人播道會堂會牧師15年、退休後、致力研究如何用輔導及屬靈塑造的整合及如何幫助個人生命成長。現任卡城恩道神學院校牧、天糧輔導中心靈修導引師、在不同教會帶領生命成長及屬靈進深課程及退修會、也為牧者及教會領袖預備退修營、讓他們可以在主內重新得力。

ANACEFC Advisor: Rev. Anthony Tsang 北美華人播道會聯會顧問：曾昭陽牧師



I have memberships in two Churches: Hop Yat Church of the Churches of Christ in China (Hong Kong) since my baptism in 1959; and the Chinese Evangelical Free Church of Los Angeles (CEFC-LA) since 1969. I started as a member of both churches and eventually served as an ordained minister. I was ordained by the Evangelical Free Church of America

in 1991. I had served in CEFC-LA for 16 years before I was called to be the Senior Pastor overseeing the whole Hop Yat Church system in Hong Kong, which included four local churches, a gospel center, a center for seniors and several schools. I served there until my retirement in 2010, and I returned to the US.

My relationship with ANACEFC started with my attendance at the second ANACEFC Annual Conference as a church representative. I have served in ANACEFC in some capacity, except for the time that I served in Hong Kong. I had served as the first-ever Church Planting Coordinator on the Board of

ANACEFC and had served in other capacities throughout the years, except 2004-2010, when I was serving in Hong Kong. Other positions that I served on the ANACEFC board include Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and various other positions.

In addition, I had been elected, at the denomination level of EFCA, to serve on the EFCA Mission Board and the Urban-Intercultural Board. I also served in GLACMA, the Greater LA Christian Ministers Association, in various Board positions.

The words for mutual encouragement are best found in the title of the hymn that I sang in my Ordination and my retirement. The title is “The longer I serve him, the sweeter it grows”.

曾昭陽牧師簡介

我信主至今只持有兩個會籍：自1959洗禮便加入了香港中華基督教會合一堂；及後1969也加入了羅省華人播道會成為會員。在兩個教會的歷程相仿：先是會友，後是牧師。我是在1991年被美國播道會所按立的。我在播道會事奉了16年後，回應主的呼召，回港出任合一堂主任牧師一職，統領合一堂屬下的四個座堂；一個佈道所；一個長者服務中

(Continued on Page 2 | 續第2頁)

Timeline of Giving Thanks to God

Liaison Officer Chi Eng Yuan

When God called us, Chi Eng and Kar-Shan, to serve Him as the itinerant pastors of the Association of North American Chinese Evangelical Free Churches between 2013 and 2018, we have found that the pastors, the lay leaders, the congregation of most Chinese Evangelical Free Churches did not know well the statement of faith of EFCA and its ethos. The need to understand the statement of faith in Chinese has been crucial. The first project was to ask permission and to find qualified people to translate Evangelical Convictions and Gospel Truth by Greg Strand, the director of Biblical Theology and Credentialing for the EFCA, which started in 2016.

Furthermore, when a wave of new pastors took the role of shepherding the flocks, we were asked by new pastors and lay leaders of Chinese EF churches about the process of being credentialed from getting a ministry license to a certificate of ordination in the Evangelical Free Churches of America. Since all documents are in English, the need to translate those documents into Chinese has been raised.

Since our retirement in 2020, God gave us a new vision to encourage pastors and to walk with them along the ministry journey, and we could “change the tires” to serve Him as volunteers. God answered our prayers in His Way and in His Timing. ANACEFC board appointed us on Jan 19, 2020, as the Liaison officers of ANACEFC with the Evangelical Free Church of America. The Evangelical Free Churches of America Network (Ministerial Association of EFCA) also invited Chi Eng to be its board member and appointed him officially on Feb 6, 2020.

We give thanks to the Lord that we have recruited a team with spiritual gifts of translation that come from different Chinese EF Churches and are united as one. The translation team has already translated all the basic documents related to credentialing in EFCA. In addition, EFCA has always responded with a biblical

perspective to hot theological/social issues. The important articles, some sermons from EFCA Theology conferences and some topics that need to be aware have been chosen for translation into Chinese as ongoing projects. From the past until now, it is God's blessing to have Jean Chang, Teresa Gianakakos, Tim and Cynthia Han, Tim and Wendy Lam, Kathy Tsen, Jianping Yan, and Kevin Yang to serve the Lord together.

We give thanks to the Lord that we had first-hand experience of the collaboration of district and local churches. It happened when we were invited by Rev. Vincent Leung in 2018 to be the council members for his ordination council. Rev. Leung preferred to write his paper and defend his oral exam in English. We were delighted to serve the Lord with the representatives of the board of ministerial standing of the EFCA Great Lake district and the lay leaders of Chinese Evangelical Free Church of Greater Chicago.

We also witnessed the love in Christ from our denomination when Rev. Bing Tang of First Ithaca Chinese Christian Church of Ithaca, NY preferred to do the transfer of his ordination paper and council in Chinese. Throughout the discussion with Rev. Greg Strand about considering the number requirement of pastors and lay leaders to form an ordination council, We give thanks to the Lord that the number requirement of pastors and lay leaders has been reduced by the EFCA Board of Ministerial Standing (BOMS) because not many Chinese pastors ordained in EFCA and small size of the Chinese EF churches. This decision became a workable plan to form an ordination council for Chinese EF churches. As a result, the council included three EFCA ordained pastors and lay leaders from the First Ithaca Chinese Christian Church of Ithaca.

In early 2022, one of the questions has been asked repeatedly about the credentialing for the requirements and the procedures of credentialing for license, ordination or transfer of ordination in EFCA for Chinese pastors of Chinese EF Churches. Therefore

Rev. Greg Strand and Chi Eng have discussed to provide a guideline for Chinese pastors in EFCA to be credential in Chinese as listed below:

ANACEFC Credentialing

Introduction

There are no differences in terms of the requirements and the procedures of credentialing for license, ordination or transfer of ordination in EFCA. The standard is the same for each applicant. The only difference is that the Chinese applicants can prefer to use Chinese in writing and in defence of their papers.

The pastor applicant can either be credentialed in English or in Chinese. Rev. Chi Eng Yuan has been one of the ordination council members for Rev. Vincent Leung of the Greater Chicago Chinese EFC, whose ordination paper and council were in English. Rev. Chi Eng Yuan also was one of the council members of Rev. Bing Tang of First Ithaca Chinese Christian Church of Ithaca, NY, whose transfer of ordination paper and council were in Chinese. Both of them fulfilled the requirements for an EFCA credential with the blessing from the local church and the help of the district.

Due to the small size of Chinese Evangelical Free Churches, the Board of Ministerial Standing (BOMS) has kindly given permission to form the ordination council with three EFCA ordained pastors and three lay leaders from the local church.

Papers, Councils and Minutes

1. All of this can be done in Chinese – paper, council, and minutes. Of course, that will mean that the council members can read and engage in Chinese. If not, a translator is necessary.
2. Once the council has been completed, then all of that material will be sent by the district to the national office. This is the same policy followed by all.
3. When the national office receives the material, we

will send it to the readers. They read this material in Chinese on behalf of BOMS, even though they do not officially sit on BOMS. BOMS has approved them to serve in this way on their behalf.

4. The readers write their reviews/evaluations in English so that BOMS can read a summary of the paper and council for the purpose of BOMS making a final determination of the candidate

感謝神的時間表

聯絡主任 袁奇恩牧師

當神呼召我們奇恩和家珊在2013年至2018年間擔任北美華人播道會聯會巡迴牧師的事奉時，我們發現大部分北美華人播道會的牧者、平信徒領袖和會眾都不太了解美國播道會的信仰宣言及其精神。事實上，北美華人播道會非常需要了解美國播道會的信仰宣言。因此，我們首要任務是在2016年徵求福音認信Evangelical Conviction和福音真理Gospel Truth的英翻中許可。同時，我們亦尋找適合的人來譯這二本由美國播道會聖經神學和牧師/傳道認證執行主任格雷格·斯特蘭德(Greg Strand)所寫的書。

此外，當新一波的牧者擔任牧養群羊的角色時，新任牧師、華人播道會教會的平信徒領袖均詢問他們的牧者在美國播道會如何獲得事工執照和被按立牧師的過程。由於所有文件均為英文，因此，將這些文件翻譯成中文順里成章成為下一事奉目標。

自從我們在2020年退休後，神給了我們一個新的異象：鼓勵北美華人播道會的牧師/傳道，鼓勵並與他們一起走在事奉的路上。我們仰望神賜予以義工身份完成神託付的使命。神以祂的方式和時間回應我們的祈禱。北美華人播道會聯會董事會於2020年1月19日任命我們為北美華人播道會聯會與美國播道會的聯絡主任。同時，美國播道會網絡EFCA Network(事奉同工協會)也邀請奇恩成為其董事會成員，並於2020年2月6日正式委任。

感謝主，神讓我們招募了一支翻譯團隊，他們來自不同華人播道會的弟兄姊妹，他們不單具有事奉的翻譯恩賜並願意藉此恩賜來同心事奉主。他們已經翻譯了美國播道會所有與牧師/傳道認證相關的基本文件。此外，還有美國播道會以聖經的角度回應熱門的神學/社會問題，美國播道會的重要文章、一些講道均成為我們關注的項目並按需要選擇地由翻譯團隊譯成中文。翻譯團隊成員從過去到現在名單如下：Jean Chang，凌煥茜，林添德，林曹永中，韓子建，韓黃梓恩，Kathy Tsen，嚴建萍和楊晨光，我們深感這是蒙神祝福的隊工。

感謝主讓我親身體驗區會和當地教會的合作的美好。2018年，我們獲梁永勝牧師邀請成為他的按牧委員會的委員。梁牧師選用英語寫論文和答辯。能夠體會和見證與美國播道會大湖區區會認證代表和芝加哥華人播道會的信徒領袖同心事奉主的喜樂。

神賜另一個機會讓我們見證了播道會宗派的美麗圖畫，位於紐約的第一伊的家華人基督教會的唐斌牧師申請按立轉移，由其他宗派牧師轉入成為播道會牧師。因播道會的牧師按立轉移和按立牧師的要求相同，唐牧師選用中文寫論文和答辯。基於在美國播道會被按立的華人播道會牧師人數不多和華人播道會規模大部分較小，在與格雷格·斯特蘭德(Greg Strand)討論後，美國播道會牧師/傳道認證常務委員會調整了按立委員會牧師和平信徒領袖的人數要求。這一決定帶來華人播道會成立按立委員會的可行計劃。結果，委員會成員包括三位美國播道會按立的牧師和來自第一伊的家華人基督教會的平信徒領袖組成。

踏入2022年，其中一個問題被反復提問是關於華人播道會牧師如何能獲美國播道會牧師/傳道認證執照，牧師按立，或牧師按立轉移資格的要求和程序。因此格雷格·斯特蘭德(Greg Strand)和奇恩一起討論，為美國播道會的華人牧者提供以下指南：

北美華人播道會聯會 牧師/傳道認證

簡介

有關美國播道會牧師/傳道認證執照，牧師按立，或牧師按立轉移，沒有不同的要求和程序。對每一個申請者標準都是一樣的。唯一的不同是中國的同工申請者可以選用中文寫作和答辯論文。

申請者可以用英文或中文授予牧師/傳道認證。袁奇恩牧師曾經在大芝加哥地區華人播道會梁永勝牧師按牧委員會的委員之一。梁牧師的按牧論文和委員會都是用英文寫作和進行。

袁奇恩牧師也是紐約伊的家市第一伊的家華人基督教會的唐斌牧師按立轉移委員會的委員之一。唐牧師的按立轉移文件是中文的，按立轉移和委員會都是用中文進行的。他們兩位牧師都滿足了美國播道會牧師/傳道認證的要求，並且有地方教會的祝福和區會的協助。

由於華人播道會教會人數較少，美國播道會牧師/傳道認證常務委員會特許地方教會由三位美國播道會按立牧師和三位當地平信徒領袖組成按牧委員會。

論文，委員會和會議記錄

1. 論文，委員會，和會議記錄都可以用中文。當然，委員會的成員全部能夠閱讀中文並用中文開會。若當中有一位或以上只操英語的同工，就需要翻譯員。
2. 當委員會完成責任後，所有的資料文件會經由區會送至美國播道會總會辦公室。這是所有的人都需要遵守的規定。
3. 當美國播道會總會辦公室收到資料後，總會會送給審閱小組。他們代表美國播道會牧師/傳道認證常務委員會閱讀這些中文資料，即使他們並非美國播道會牧師/傳道認證常務委員會的成員，美國播道會牧師/傳道認證常務委員會已經同意他們代表這委員會來做這事。
4. 審閱小組會用英文寫下他們的綜述和評估，以至於美國播道會牧師/傳道認證常務委員會能夠申請者的論文和委員會的總結，最後通知這位候選人的結果。

Notes

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