

**Inside this issue 目錄**

- 1 "How Long, Lord?"  
 Summary of Oct 3rd  
 ANACEFC Annual Meeting  
 Prayer Requests
- 3 Returning to the "Good Old  
 Days"?
- 5 An Update Letter from Sandi  
 Ford (Dec. 12, 2020)
- 6 2020-2021 ANACEFC Board  
 Merry Christmas ANACEFC Board

**2020-2021 ANACEFC Board**

**Elaine Cheng**  
*Chairperson*

**David Tsen**  
*Secretary*

**Helen Woo**  
*Treasurer*

**Richard Leung/Gershon Lee**  
*Portuguese Ministry Coordinator*

**Rev. Lorne Trudgian**

*English Ministry Coordinator*

**Pastor Paul Yang**

*Mandarin Ministry Coordinator*



**Email us at**

[secretary.anacefc@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.anacefc@gmail.com)

**Check us out & Stay Connected**

[www.anacefc.com](http://www.anacefc.com)

# ANACEFC NEWS

## "How Long, Lord?"

Elaine Cheng  
 ANACEFC Chairperson

... repeatedly asked by the psalmist in Psalm 13. I believe many of us could echo with the psalmist in an unprecedented year like 2020. How we wish that all the challenges it has brought on so far to go away. At the dawn of 2021, we don't know what to expect and anticipate in the new year. But one thing for sure, we can agree with the psalmist, "But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation." Psalm 13:5.

Even in this tumultuous year, there is still much to be grateful for. On one hand, many of our ministries might not have been able to be carried out like before, but on another hand, the challenges we have encountered have also brought on many other ministry opportunities. As we celebrate Christmas, may we draw near to our Lord Jesus, the King and Savior of this world.

## Summary of Oct 3rd ANACEFC Annual Meeting

**This year due to the pandemic, we were unable to hold our Annual Conference like previous years. Instead, we conducted our Annual Business Meeting over zoom on October 3. It was well attended by 52 delegates and guests, representing 30+ churches in EFCC, EFCA and Panama.**

We started the meeting by breaking into three language groups to pray for the pandemic, our churches and Pastor Tom Ford who was recovering from having his legs amputated.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the support of our churches and delegates for a successful meeting. The following items were voted on and approved.

1. Permission to allow Business Meeting to proceed online and via digital voting.
2. 2019 Business meeting minutes

## Prayer Requests:

1. Our churches to stay strong and focused on God's Kingdom in times of pandemic.
2. Pastor Tom Ford's recovery from his health conditions. Please read Sandi Ford's letter on page 5.
3. Pastor Teresa Gianakakos who recently has been diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer and the medical team to prescribe the right treatment.



3. Adoption of Chinese Congregation of Calvary Community Church of Brea (北橙十架華人教會) as member of ANACEFC. We welcome Pastor David Shan and the Chinese congregation to our big family.
4. Financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2019
5. 2021 budget
6. Keeping Elaine Cheng on the Board for another year for continuity purposes. Elaine has completed serving on her 3rd term. However due to the pandemic, the Board requested her to stay for another year.
7. Second term for Helen Woo was (2020-2022). First term of office (2020-2022) for David Tsen and Rev. Lorne Trudgian. (Richard Leung, Gershom Lee and Rev. Paul Yang has one more year on their current term.)
8. Affirmation of Elaine Cheng as the chairperson for 2021.

Due to personal reasons, Pastor Teresa Gianakakos has decided to step down from the Board. Elaine expressed a big “thank you” to Teresa for her faithful service for the past five years. Teresa also took the opportunity to thank churches for assisting her in a survey distributed to second-generation church members to study intergenerational faith transmission in Chinese churches in North America. She shared some key findings in her research.

In the coming year, the focus of ANACEFC will be upon the three language groups. Attention will also be on care for the pastors. We have supported a critical research initiated by CCCOWE and performed by a team led by Dr. Enoch Wong on the well-beings of pastors in Canada. We will consider in the future if this research needs to extend to our US churches. We want to remind churches that we have an ongoing partnership with CESNA (China Evangelical Seminary North America) to encourage more church

members to pursue full time seminary studies, and that we have a seminarian fund set up to provide financial assistance for members of our churches.

Last but not least, we look forward to meeting everyone at next year Conference in person in Markham, Ontario, Canada from **September 29 to October 2, 2021**. The theme is “**United We Shape the Future: Focusing on Inter-Congregational Engagement.**”

Below is the approved budget for 2021. Please keep our needs in your prayers.

		<b>BUDGET 2021</b>
		<b>in USD</b>
Church Planting		\$ 12,000.00
Church Ministry for IPP		10,000.00
Seminarian Funds		15,000.00
Special Projects		9,400.00
	<i>Dorcas Ministry</i>	<i>\$5,000.00</i>
	<i>Liaison of ANA with EFCA - Rev. Chi Eng Yuan</i>	<i>\$2,400.00</i>
	<i>Others</i>	<i>\$2,000.00</i>
Annual Conference <sup>Note 1</sup>		6,000.00
Mini-Conferences <sup>Note 2</sup>		3,000.00
Board Members Travel & Meetings		12,000.00
Contingencies		16,000.00
Office Supplies		500.00
Other Expenses <sup>Note 3</sup>		600.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 84,500.00</b>
<b>Notes:</b>		
1 Regular Annual Conference: Speakers' Honorarium, Accommodation and Transportation		
2 Three online conferences (Cantonese, English and Mandarin)		
3 Included: Domain annual renewal, subscriptions, operations expenses, and miscellaneous		

### 2021 Board Members

Chairperson : *Elaine Cheng*  
 Secretary : *David Tsen*  
 Treasurer : *Helen Woo*

Cantonese Ministry Coordinator :  
*Richard Leung/Gershom Lee*  
 English Ministry Coordinator :  
*Rev. Lorne Trudgian*  
 Mandarin Ministry Coordinator :  
*Rev. Paul Yang*



A snapshot of the Zoom meeting.

**One of the priorities in the new year will be to focus on returning our services to our church building. Is your church ready to open the door of the church building when the lockdown is over? Should your church maintain the online services? Brick or Click? How does returning to the “Good Old Days” look like?**



## Returning to the “Good Old Days”?



**Rev. Lorne Trudgian**

*(Pastor of English Ministries, Calgary Chinese Evangelical Free Church  
Member of ANACEFC Board)*

The darkness was suffocating. The only light was through a small opening in the door. Where am I? I’m standing in a prison cell in solitary confinement at Alcatraz. My wife and I were on a tour of “The Rock” a few years ago. As I stood there I thought how being segregated from others, alone and in the dark must have been such a mentally challenging, and lonely experience. This harsh treatment would be especially difficult to endure since man was hot-wired in his DNA by God to be a social creature. God said in Genesis 2;18, ‘It is not good for man to be alone.’ Man was created to enjoy social interaction with others. Does this help explain the reason why many of us have found self-isolation and the temporary postponement of meeting in person gatherings at our churches during the past nine months of COVID-19 so difficult? That is, unless you are the type who enjoys being on your own. That’s certainly not me. God commanded us through the author of Hebrews to “not neglect to meet together”

(Hebrews 10:25). God knew the importance of Christians meeting together in person to worship, fellowship and serve Him. Need I remind you of those “good old days” prior to this global pandemic? Sadly, something that has become a distant memory for so many.

I was asked recently, “What is the biggest challenge you have faced as a Pastor during COVID-19?” Without hesitation I replied, “Not being able to be in person with my church family.” Shepherds love being with their sheep. Don’t get me wrong. I have appreciated living in these modern days where technology has provided Zoom access to maintain social distancing. But like many of you, not only am I “zoomed out”, but I also long to meet with my brothers and sisters in Christ face to face. I have certainly missed that. Also, I have realized with our church building closed, so many of our church ministries like small group gatherings, choir practice, Sunday School, children’s ministries, Vacation Bible School, the list goes on have suffered. With these vital ministries “on hold” there have been limited opportunities for our people to be active in Christian service utilizing their spiritual giftedness. Every believer has been given spiritual gifts meant to be used, and every church body desperately needs every part active. There are many ways we simply can’t serve or encourage or build up Christ’s body unless we’re physically present.

Besides, our neighborhoods and neighbors around our church building needs to see the church gathering regularly on Sundays and during the week as a witness to them of the gospel’s transforming power. But perhaps what has been concerning to me the most since online Sunday services began is how easy it has been for us, including myself, to settle into and enjoy the convenience of meeting virtually. Now we face the challenge as pastors of reminding our sheep that meeting together in

person is God’s original intent and the need to re-educate its benefits and blessings. Have we forgotten who we are as a Body of Christ and our need for each other? There are many biblical reasons to come back to church after COVID-19. “You are the body of Christ and each one of you is a part of it” 1 Corinthians 12:27.

So how do we as Pastors and Church Board members prepare our church people for the upcoming days of post-COVID-19? That’s the concern and focus we are currently wrestling with and need to address as your ANACEFC board. Be assured we recognize and plan on helping address this need with you our ANACEFC churches. We will share with you the details in the coming months.

Could the “good old days” in our lives and churches be not so great as we remember them being? Rather, here’s a thought, could these present days be the days we one future day will look back upon as the “good old days?”

Next time you visit San Francisco, make sure you visit Alcatraz and take the tour! It may help you realize as it did me just how much we need each other ... in person!

Alcatraz Island, California.



We would like to hear from you. Please send us your thoughts and prayers to [secretary.anacefc@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.anacefc@gmail.com)

## *An update letter from Sandi Ford ... Dec 12, 2020*

*Merry Christmas, Elaine!*

*We are celebrating our LORD God who has brought Tom home after three weeks of hospitalization. He came home late Thursday and has a VAC pack on his hand to assist with healing. It's for the healing of the palm of his hand. By amputating his thumb and the tip of his pointer finger, the surgeon initially said we have a 70% chance of saving the rest of his hand. Once the surgeon removed the infection and damaged tissues, there has been no complications or issues with the hand of any kind. Praise God! He has answered our prayers.*

*Now Tom will resume hyperbaric oxygen therapy next week. He began this in October and it has assisted the healing of his leg wounds. We praise God that Tom's legs are well on the way to healing. They are 1/3 smaller than they were one month ago! Healing is happening. We must be patient and keep praying in faith.*

*The team at Toronto General Hospital will reactivate Tom back on the transplant list once he is completely healed.*

*They want to do the transplant first and then do rehab/prosthetics next.*

*We learned this fall that Tom is no longer a candidate for a double transplant because of his leg amputations. Apparently, they use tissue from the calf muscles to do the pancreas transplant. They moved Tom to be a candidate for a kidney*

*transplant and then receive pancreas islet therapy. The isolates are injected and will keep the diabetes very managed with no highs and lows. One therapy should last ten years but when needed another dose of isolates will be given. So this is now the treatment we hope to get to next year.*

*We must tell you that the kindness and prayers of the Bride of Christ have given us strength and courage. It has been a visible evidence of the LORD's love & care. We know we are not alone as Tom has this suffering. Thank you for submitting to the Spirit's call & being of use to Him in this way. May your faith continued to be blessed & strengthen in 2021 as you walk in obedience with Jesus Christ.*

*Blessings.*

*Sandi & Tom Ford  
Paxton, Karissa & Alexis*

Pastor Tom Ford at the Toronto General Hospital.





在黑暗中行走的百姓看見了大光，  
住在死蔭之地的人有光照耀他們。

—以賽亞書9:2

*“The people walking in darkness have  
seen a great light; on those living in  
the land of deep darkness a light has  
dawned.” -Isaiah 9:2*

**當我們等待聖誕的來臨，  
讓我們把目光注視在我們的  
救主，祂是這世上的光，  
我們歡喜快樂慶祝祂的誕生！  
祝大家聖誕快樂和一個蒙福的  
2021年！**

*As advent begins and we count down to  
December 25th, may we lift up our eyes  
to our Savior, who is  
the light to this world, and  
celebrate His birth with exuberant joy!  
Wishing you all a Merry Christmas  
and a Blessed 2021!*

北美華人播道聯會董事會敬賀  
The Board of ANACEFC



**ANACEFC NEWS**

北美華人播道會聯會通訊

**Editorial Board 編輯委員會**

Editor 編輯:

Elaine Cheng

Secretary 秘書:

David Tsen

Publication Design 出版設計:

Joseph Yu

Copyright © 2020

**2020-2021  
BOARD  
OF  
ANACEFC**



*Chairperson*  
Elaine Cheng



*Secretary*  
David Tsen



*Treasurer*  
Helen Woo



*Cantonese Ministry  
Coordinator*  
Gershom Lee



*English Ministry  
Coordinator*  
Richard Leung



*English Ministry  
Coordinator*  
Rev. Lorne Trudgian



*Mandarin Ministry  
Coordinator*  
Pastor Paul Yang

Support  
.....

*Communication  
Specialist*  
Joseph Yu