

CHINESE CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GREATER ALBANY

2006 YOUTH/ENGLISH MINISTRY REPORT

2006 was an exciting and productive year as the Lord continued to work in so many ways through His encouragement and blessing upon the Youth Ministry here at the Chinese Christian Church of Greater Albany.

“Christian – Not a Name to be Claimed, But a Life to be Lived!”

We began the year with this theme that became the focus of everything we undertook: our planning sessions, worship hour, Sunday School teaching, development of the Praise Team, our relationships with each other and outreach activities involving those beyond the walls of 901 Madison Avenue.

Our worship hours were centered upon preaching from Book of Romans. We began in January, with 1:1, Paul’s declaration as a bond-slave of Christ, chosen to preach His Good News; and finished on December 31, with Romans 5:21, rejoicing in the proclamation that the “Dictatorship of Sin” has been overthrown and grace is now in command through the righteousness of Jesus Christ, offering eternal life to all who call upon His name. What a glorious way to end the year! It is our goal to continue our study of Paul’s powerful testimony to the believers in Rome, and, by God’s reigning grace, seek to nurture the understanding of true faith and challenge its application to our collective lives here in the 21st Century.

Our Sunday School Classes were well attended and we were encouraged, both by the increased participation on the part of our youth, as well as by the growing support of the adults willing to take on teaching responsibilities. Our high school class viewed and discussed the video series “That The World May Know.” Since then, they have been involved with Lee Strobel’s book, “A Case for Faith.” The Junior Class continued with its study of who God is (His attributes), a study of the Book of Acts and, most recently, parables that further illustrate the Sunday messages.

The Youth Praise Team has grown in numbers and effectiveness during the past year. It began under the leadership of Peter Ting, a graduate student at Albany Medical College, who had been with us for 18 months. It was with a mixture of joy and sorrow that Peter responded to God’s call midway through the year. He joined the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ, willing to trade in his medical laboratory in Albany for a spiritual laboratory within a major university in Southeast Asia, where he is now sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with those who still walk in darkness. In the meantime, our Youth Praise Team met the challenge, having provided leadership from within, meeting every Saturday to prepare themselves and the music to lead all the youth in songs of praise during the Sunday Worship. We thank God for them and the ministry they have committed to as part of their service of worship to their Lord.

Baptisms – A number among our youth participated in Baptism Orientation Classes (Spring), with two having stepped forward to take a public stand for Jesus Christ through water baptism. We realize this is the work of the Holy Spirit and praise God for His faithfulness in touching the lives of Daniel Li and Dennis Pu.

Our Special Activities were exciting and involved many youth (and their families) who are either non-believers or attended other churches. We’re overjoyed that these young people are learning the importance of this kind of “outreach” that opens the door to bringing their friends to church and eventually, by God’s grace, to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

The past year’s special events included:

Monthly Friday Night at the Movies	Annual Family Day Trip to Word of Life	
St. Patrick’s Day Dinner	Graduation Parties	Printing of Youth Calendar
Summer Cookout	Back to School Party	Mountain Hiking
College Information Night	Christmas Party	College Winter Break Party

Acknowledgments – We are grateful for the support of the many parents who have assisted this ministry with their help in planning activities, transportation, teaching, and other support ... and offer our special thanks to the Wang Family (Jason and Rong) for their faithfulness in hosting so many of these occasions that have added to the growth of this ministry.

We also wish to thank the leaders and members of Clifton Park Community Church for their continuing support: Opening their Library allowing us to access Christian Education materials, providing the occasional use of their copy machine for the duplication of sermon outlines, and for their ongoing prayer support. These have added greatly to our efforts to serve the Lord in the CCCGA Youth Ministry throughout 2006.

“To God be the glory ... great things He hath done!”
Because He lives,

Phil & Blossom Woodrow