

Community Announcements

Q&A Class @ 11:15am in B05B

This class is run weekly and is open to anyone (new Christians, seekers, newcomers, etc) who have any questions about Christianity. The format is a flexible Q & A style. Please see a Welcome Team member for more information.

Tax Receipts for 2017 Donations

Receipts for 2017 donations are now available in the church office. For any enquiries, please contact Jennifer Kou (Church Treasurer) at jennifer.kou@ntcbc.ca

Welcome Lunch Today 4th @ 12:30pm

Welcome Lunch is an opportunity for those who are new to not only connect with members of NTCBC, but to be plugged into a Small Group or Fellowship. Please see a Welcome Team member for more info! Members pay \$5 for lunch & newcomers eat free!

Softball Info Session on Mar 4th @1:00pm

With spring training just around the corner, our church plans to field a youth/adult softball team this summer.

If you are interested in participating, please attend the Info Session in Room 102. All are welcome to join though preference will be given to students.

NTCBC Easter Events

Mar 30, 4:00pm English Good Friday Service
Mar 30, 7:30pm Chinese Good Friday Service
Apr 1, 2:00 pm Easter Baptism

Jiang-Xi Gospel Exchange & English Camp (July 19-31, 2018)

Applications for this STM team will be accepted starting in April for the whole month. Application form is available at the office. See Rev. Lau or Cindy Chan for details.

Condolence

To William Luk and his family. His father, Nai-King Luk returned to be with our Lord on Feb 14. Memorial Service was held on Mar 3.

Senior Pastor Calling

After months of prayers, the Deacon Board has affirmed the calling of a Senior Pastor candidate with membership affirmation vote to be taken in March 25th membership meeting. To help us seek God's will as a congregation on this important motion, special meetings are arranged in the next few weeks to learn more about the candidate and to pray together for the affirmation decision.

Prayer Meetings for Senior Pastor Calling
Date: March 10, 17, 24 (Saturday)
Time: 8am-9am
Location: Mandarin Sanctuary (Second Floor)

Special Membership Meeting on candidate biography
Date: March 18 (Sunday)
Time: 2pm-3pm
Location: Main Sanctuary

Staff News

Vacations

- Pastor Cat from Mar 3–17

Emergency Leave

- Mr. Kenneth Li from Feb 16 – Mar 9

Children Ministry

Easter Celebration Event

The Easter Scavenger Hunt
Date : Sunday, April 1, 11: 15 - 12:30
For more information, Contact Winnie Lai (poon_win@hotmail.com)

VBC 2018

Theme: Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus
Date: August 7-17
Grade: Completed SK - Grade 6
Registration start at March 25 (Sunday)
For more information: www.ntcbc.org
Email to vlc@ntcbc.org for inquires



**NORTH TORONTO
CHINESE BAPTIST
CHURCH**

多倫多北區華人浸信會

88 Finch Ave West www.ntcbc.org (416) 733-8088
North York, ON., M2N 2H7

2018 Theme
Living Stones of
the Spiritual House
1 Peter 2:4-8

2015-2019 Theme | Expanding the Kingdom
of God | 1 Peter 1:3-2:10

English Worship Service

March 4, 2018

9:45AM – Main Sanctuary

	This Week	Next Week
Praise Leader	Pastor Curtis Lai	Clement Phuong
Scripture	Galatians 2:15-3:29	
Sermon Title	Only Faith Matters	Discerning God's Will
Speaker	Pastor Kwan Chan	Rev. Patrick Lau
Benediction	Rev Patrick Lau	Rev Patrick Lau

Sunday School

January to April 2018 | 11:15am – 12:30pm

Age Group	Class	Location
Junior High (Gr 7-8)	Pentateuch	Room 314/315
High School	Pentateuch	Room 317
Adult	Old Testament Survey	Room 102
Adult (Women only)	Genesis	Basement
All	Baptism & Membership	B09 (Office Level)

Welcome to NTCBC! We're glad you've decided to join us in worshipping our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. If you have any questions at all, please speak with someone from our Welcome Team (they're the friendly people in the blue shirts!). They will happily connect you with a Sunday School class, the Q&A class, or even a Fellowship or Small Group.

Sermon Guide

Series: Galatians – Freedom of the Christian

Freedom is defined as the power to act or speak as one wants without hindrance or restraint. The Bible says that Jesus' death on the cross has won Christians absolute freedom. If this is so, why do so many in the church view Christianity as a straitjacket, where God is restraining them from acting or speaking as they please?

The answer is that although Jesus has defeated the power of sin, many still choose to stay enslaved to sin's power, and thus refuse the transformative power of the Gospel. This sermon series explores God's promise of freedom and how we can vanquish sin's power in our lives and live as free men and women who freely and joyously worship, love, and obey our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Last week: Convenient Christianity

In our passage, we read of an occasion when the Apostle Paul rebuked Peter for practicing a 'convenient Christianity', where he acted out of a 'fear of man'. Although his sin was dealt with properly, the damage was done: people turned away from God and people's obedience to God was poisoned. This episode reminds us that sin damages us and those around us. It also teaches that we must lovingly confront sinners with the Gospel of Jesus Christ so that we can respond with heartfelt repentance.

This week: Only Faith Matters

One of the fundamental beliefs of Christianity is that Christians are justified by faith in Christ. To have faith in Christ means to have a belief that empowers new life lived for God's glory and purposes; faith in Christ leads to life in Christ. This fundamental doctrine has an incredibly practical application: we can all come to God, regardless of what state we are in, and know we are welcomed into His family, not by our merit, but by His gracious invitation.

Study Questions for Small Groups & Fellowships

Icebreaker: Share one 'house rule' that you constantly ignore and need to be continually reminded of?

1. How does Paul argue for justification by faith in Christ? Why is it important that we continue to talk about and uphold this doctrine? What are other core Christian doctrines/beliefs that you feel ought to be discussed more in church today?

2. Why it is impossible for someone to be justified by works of the law? Brainstorm some symptoms of a person with a works-righteousness disposition? Why is it good news that God's acceptance cannot be merited by human effort? How is this good news for those who feel like they're not good enough to go to church or be accepted by God?

3. What does it mean to have faith in Christ? What are possible misconceptions of 'faith in Christ'? How can we lovingly lead those who 'think they believe but don't believe' to have genuine faith in Christ? Discuss the differences between living a 'life in Christ' and doing 'works of the law'.

4. How can someone nullify the grace of God and devalue Christ's death and resurrection? Reflect on your own life and identify which of the two attitudes you see more in yourself?

5. Discuss the importance of emphasizing Christian obedience as a response to God's love for us.

How will you respond to God's Word this week?

Church Life

Sun Sunday School
11:15am-12:30pm (various classrooms)

Adult Fellowship
11:15am-12:30pm (Rooms 314/315/317)

Q&A Class
11:15am-12:30pm (B05B – Office Level)

Children's Sunday School
11:15am-12:30pm (Check-in on 3rd Floor)

Welcome Lunch
12:30 pm-2:00pm (Basement)

Mon Volleyball Skills Clinic
7:30pm-9:30pm (Gym)

Tues Men's Basketball
7:00pm-10:00pm (Gym)

Wed Prayer Meeting
8:00pm-9:15pm (3rd Floor)

Children's Prayer Meeting
8:00pm-9:00pm (Library)

Thur Career Small Groups
7:30pm-9:45pm (3rd Floor)

Fri Malachi High School Fellowship
7:30pm-9:45pm (Rm 302)

Junior High School Fellowship
7:30pm-9:45pm (Rm 306)

Immanuel Career Small Group
8:00pm-10:00pm (Rm 311)

Church Staff

Acting Senior Pastor: Rev Patrick Lau
patrick.lau@ntcbc.org

English Ministry: Pastor Kwan Chan
kwan.chan@ntcbc.org

Cantonese Ministry: Pastor Joanna Ip
joanna.ip@ntcbc.org

Mandarin Ministry: Pastor Cathy Chen
cathy.chen@ntcbc.org
Pastor Rose Wang
rose.wang@ntcbc.org

Youth Ministry: Pastor Curtis Lai
curtis.lai@ntcbc.org

Children Ministry: Pastor Cat Chan
catherine.chan@ntcbc.org

Office Manager: Kenneth Li
officemanager@ntcbc.org

Administrator Wilman Lai
admin@ntcbc.org

For all general questions regarding English Ministries, please send an email to Pastor Kwan or to our English Ministry Vice Chair, Derek Ma, at derek.ma@ntcbc.ca. If you have a general question about our church, please email Wilman Lai at admin@ntcbc.org.

Last Week's Attendance

Cantonese - 8:15am	90
Cantonese - 11:15am	162
English – 9:45am	183
Mandarin - 8:15am	23
Mandarin - 11:15am	58
Mandarin - 3:15pm	19

Last Week's Offering

General:	\$15,204
Mission Fund:	\$3,317
Maintenance:	\$660
Building:	\$50
Other:	\$105