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華人教會「澳神」角色

澳神董事梁錦洪牧師

聽過不只一次有人提到，在澳洲雪梨已有好幾間神學院，為甚麼還要開辦一所神學院？為甚麼不用現有的資源而要自行費神費力？華人教會需要教牧，需要傳道，應順理成章的前往現有的神學院接受裝備，接受訓練，況且，現在在雪梨或澳洲其他各省的神學院，有好些已十分有規模，不論在師資，在設備上都足以值得加以推薦。

若持這樣看法，那就應瞭解一下，在雪梨或澳洲其他各省的華人教會對教牧同工的要求及應有的能力或質素的期盼。在澳洲的華人教會，大多是移民信徒成立的，或有些是由某一基督教宗派中延伸出來的。能稱之為「華人教會」，除了多是由原籍中國大陸、香港、台灣、東南亞一帶的華人移居雪梨後組成外，尚有的是華人教會到目前為止，主日可能有幾個主日崇拜，而其中的一個主日崇拜，總是以中文進行，其中多是說普通話或粵語。華人教會內大部份青年以上的會友，都會對中文十分諳熟，慣用中文聖經，也慣以中文溝通，普通話或粵語，當然有部份普通話及粵語皆可派上用場。

在這種環境下的華人教會，自然需要帶領教會的教牧同工和牧師傳道對中文有一定程度的讀、寫、聽能力，在講方面也希望其普通話及粵語都說得伶俐。不但如此，不要忘記澳洲的法定語言是英語，若只懂中文，在牧會、許多平日社交及生活的問題上，對外協助會友時，用上英語溝通時，就會遇到困難。當華人教會發展茁壯，下一代在教會成長，因土生土長，他們所用的語言自然是以英語為主，作為華人教會牧者和傳道若不諳英語，不能溝通，總會帶來一些隔閡，甚而有時會引起誤會。

華人教會所需要的教牧同工，除了要擁有良好的神學訓練，著實還要具備良好的中、英語能力，兩文三語（讀時、寫時是中文及英文；聽時、講時是國「華」語、粵語及英語）。

看到上述華人教會的需要，那些進入本地純英語教授的神學院接受裝備，然後準備回到華人教會牧養的神學生，除非他們入讀前已有足夠的中文及英文能力，否則他們不能滿足華人教會的需要。因為有些自問英文能力不高者，不敢貿然入學，失卻了接受裝備的機會，另一方面，那些英文能力強的，往往因在本地受教育，中文能力往往不高，讀神學期間因為多用英語，自然不是問題，但是若一到華人教會牧會，就會因中文不夠用而遇到很多挫折。

看到上述原因，使人明白「澳神」成立的原因，就是要在裝備華人教會教牧的需求上擔上一角色，讓英文學習感困難或習慣以中文學習的人士有修讀神學、接受裝備的機會，亦可藉此多學習英語，因目前有部份科目是必須以英文進修呢！至於那些受本地教育，中文能力不高的，他們若有負擔往華人教會事奉，「澳神」正是他們可以考慮接受裝備的地方，不是前來以中文授課，學習中文而已！乃是好些神學科目，如講道學，總會與本地神學院的教授有點不同，這與文化及文字運用有著關係，有學習的適切需要，況且講道時要用中文呢！

「務要傳道，無論得時不得時，總要專心，並用百般的忍耐，各樣的教訓，責備人，警戒人，勸勉人。」（提摩太後書四章二節）

惟願澳洲華人教牧神學院，不但在神學科目上與其他神學院不遑多讓，更要能為天國訓練「兩文三語」合神心意的器皿，在未來日子，耶穌要再來之前，使本地華人教會有足夠適切的神的工人，牧養群羊，福音傳播，拓展天國。

最新消息

◆ 感謝主！第六屆神學證書及文憑課程畢業典禮已在去年 11 月舉行，當天更迎來第一屆長執訓練證書課程的畢業生。願這批畢業生能被神重用。照片已刊登於本院網站。

◆ 本年度的證書及文憑課程將改為三個學期，課程草擬已刊載於本院網站。

◆ 本院現正招收 2012 年度下學期學位課程學生，申請入學截止日期是 5 月 15 日，查詢請電 0425-342-552。

代禱事項

✚ 請為本院着意增聘第二位全職講師代禱。

✚ 求主賜予合適的講師。

✚ 為各課程的老師及學員代禱。求主加力。

✚ 請為本院經費代禱，求主感動更多朋友參與支持，成為我們的神學教育夥伴，為訓練未來華人牧者、裝備長執及造就信徒共同努力。

✚ 請為本院物色校舍一事代禱，求主預備適合的地方。

✚ 請為圖書館的發展代禱。

(詳情和報名表格可於本院網站瀏覽及下載)

本院在2012年將舉辦三次工作坊:

『馬可福音』研讀

普通話授課

丁淑明牧師

[教牧學博士候選人, 新加坡神學院神學士及基督教研究文學碩士, 曾任澳洲萬民基督教會堂主任]

日期: 6/3 - 24/4 (週二) 共8講

時間: 下午7時至9時30分

地點: 長老宗神學院 (77 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood 2134)

31/3 (星期六) — 事奉基礎 〈如何作個屬靈領袖〉

30/6 (星期六) — 牧者關係 〈如何帶領屬靈異象〉

20/10 (星期六) — 生命操練 〈如何面對屬靈爭戰〉

講師: 梁明生牧師、張明俊牧師、
羅德麟牧師、李德文先生

形式: 講座、分組討論、個人測試

語言: 粵語講授, 討論分為粵語組、國語組、英文組, 並輔以中英文講義

時間: 上午9時30分至下午5時

地點: 宣道會希伯崙堂 (51 Hawkesbury Road, Westmead)

學員平均成績達標, 可獲頒授證書

詳情和報名表格可在本院網站瀏覽及下載

初期基督教會史 — 密集課程

粵語授課

池耀興博士

[池牧師 (Ph.D, Th.M, MAR, MBS), 美國西敏士神學院神學碩士 (主修護教學)、中國北京大學哲學博士 (主修中國哲學)。目前, 池牧師是北京國語國際教會牧師和馬來西亞聖經神學院客座研究學者。]

日期及時間: 24/3 及 31/3 (週六) 上午10時至下午5時
26/3 至 28/3 (週一至週三) 下午7時至9時30分
共5講

地點: 北雪梨華人宣道會 (59 Carlingford Rd, Epping 2121)

感謝主! 除了本院學生已於去年完成第一年的學位課程外, 學院亦已取錄了十八位學位新生, 這批新生中一半是來自國語背景的。

比起去年只有五位學位學生, 今年對我們來說真是一個鼓舞。我只能將此看為是神給我們以下的信息 (因我相信神在對我們說話):

1. 華人教會實在需要更多受過訓練的牧者
2. 神答允我們「需要更多能說普通話同工」的禱告
3. 華人教會對本院的支持日益增長

我相信當前急務是澳神能盡快發展成為一所獨立的學府。為此, 我們需要增聘三位全職老師和每年多籌三十萬元。

請為我們代禱, 期待能看到神在祂的大能中如何為我們預備!

馮約瑟牧師 (拓展主任)

基督教倫理學概論 — 密集課程

普通話授課

池耀興博士

[講師資料同上。]

日期: 29/3 & 30/3 (週四至週五), 2/4 & 3/4 & 4/4
(週一至週三), 共5講

時間: 上午9時至下午1時

地點: 長老宗神學院 (77 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood 2134)

『羅馬書』研讀

普通話授課

朱樹慶牧師

[澳洲西澳大學理學士, 新加坡三一神學院道學士, 美國加州三藩市神學院教牧學博士, 曾任悉尼聖公會聖保羅堂牧師。]

日期: 17/4 - 5/6 (週二) 共8講

時間: 上午10時至12時30分

地點: 華澳浸信會展愛堂 (1 Reserve Street, West Ryde)

靠著神的恩典和供應, 本人願意支持澳神事工 By God's grace, I would like to support CTCA:

經常費 General Fund 圖書館基金 (可享免稅優惠) Tax deductible Library Fund

校舍基金 (可享免稅優惠) Tax deductible Building Fund

地址Address: _____

聯絡電話 Telephone/Mobile (_____) _____ 電郵Email _____

劃線支票抬頭請寫 "Chinese Theological College Australia Inc." 或直接存入銀行戶口 (Westpac Banking Corporation 032-080-29-0867) 然後請將收據連同此表格一併寄回本院。 ~~~ 謝謝您的支持!

Please make a cheque payable to "Chinese Theological College Australia Inc." or direct deposit into Westpac Banking Corporation 032-080-29-0867 and return the deposit slip with this form to us. ~~~ Thank you for your support

NT—GOSPEL OF MARK

Rev. Minh Dinh [B. Th., M. A. of Christian Theology and Current Doctor of Ministry (DMin) Candidate. (Singapore Bible College, Singapore) , ex-senior pastor of the Peoples Christian Church of Australia]

Date: 6 Mar—24 Apr (8 Tuesdays)

Time: 7-9:30 pm

Venue: Presbyterian Theological Centre (77 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood, 2134)

Language: Putonghua

NT – ROMANS

Rev. Wilfred Chee (B.Sc. (Univ. of W. A.) Perth; B.TH.

Trinity Theological College, Singapore; D.Min. (San Francisco Theological Seminary); retired Anglican minister of St. Paul's Church Chatswood , Sydney.)

Date: 17 Apr—5 June (8 Tuesdays)

Time: 10 am—12:30 pm

Venue: Chinese & Australian Baptist Church (1 Reserve Street, West Ryde)

Language: Putonghua

INTRODUCTION TO EARLY CHURCH HISTORY — INTENSIVE COURSE

Dr. Alex Chi [Rev. Dr. Alex Chi holds a Masters Degree of Theology in the field of Apologetics and a Ph. D in Chinese Philosophy. He is the founder and pastor of Beijing International Mandarin Church and the guest researcher of Malaysia Bible Seminary.]

Date & Time : 24 Mar & 31 Mar (Sats) 10 am—5 pm
26—28 Mar (Mon-Wed) 7—9:30 pm (5 lessons)

Venue: North Side Chinese Alliance Church (59 Carlingford Rd, Epping 2121)

Language: Cantonese

INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN ETHNICS — INTENSIVE COURSE

Dr. Alex Chi [Rev. Dr. Alex Chi holds a Masters Degree of Theology in the field of Apologetics and a Ph. D in Chinese Philosophy. He is the founder and pastor of Beijing International Mandarin Church and the guest researcher of Malaysia Bible Seminary.]

Date: 29 & 30 Mar (Thur-Fri) , 2—4 Apr (Mon-Wed) (5 lessons)
Time: 9 am—1 pm

Venue: Presbyterian Theological Centre (77 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood, 2134)

Language: Putonghua

2012年「莫慶堯博士」神學講座

主講：余達心博士
(中國神學研究院院長)

27/7 (週五) 至 29/7 (週日)

詳情可於五月中後見本院網站，敬請留意

2012 Dr Hing Yiu Mok's Theological Lecture

by Dr Carver YU
(President of CGST)

27/7 (Fri) - 29/7 (Sun)

Details to be posted on our website after mid May

Church Leadership Training Workshop

Three workshops will be organised in 2012:

31 Mar (Sat) — Foundation of Ministry
30 June (Sat) — Working with Pastors
20 Oct (Sat) — Life Advancement

Lecturers : Rev. Ming Leung, Rev. Charles Cheung,
Rev. Dennis Law & Mr. Billy Lee

Format : lecture, group discussion, individual assessment
Language: Cantonese with Chinese & English notes,
discussions in Cantonese, Mandarin & English

Time: 9:30am—5 pm

Location: Hebron Chinese Alliance Church
(51 Hawkesbury Rd, Westmead, 2145)

**Certificate will be awarded to students
meeting the course requirement**

Application form and details are available on our web site

Praise God, at the end of last year, after completing the first year of our Degree Courses, we have already received another eighteen new degree student enrollments for this year. Half of them are from Mandarin speaking background.

In comparison, at our first time degree intake last year we only had five students. This is really an encouragement to us. I could only interpret this as a message from our Lord (for I believe the Lord is speaking to us), in the following points:

- * Chinese churches really need more trained pastors.
- * The Lord has answered our prayers for more Mandarin speaking Workers.
- * Our support from Chinese churches is now gathering momentum.

I believed our next urgent need is to quickly develop into a fully independent college. To reach this goal, we need to appoint another 3 full-time lecturers and raise another \$300,000 annually.

Please pray with us and to see how our Mighty God, in His wonderful provision, will answer our need!

Rev Joseph Fung (Director of College Development)



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Theological College
Australia 4

2012 Term 1 Diploma &
Certificate Courses 3

2012 Dr Hing Yiu Mok's
Theological Lecture 3

Church Leadership
Training Workshop 3

Thank God and Pray 3

The Role of Chinese Theological College Australia

Director : Rev. Timothy Leung

Why do we need Chinese Theological College Australia (CTCA) when we already have a few theological colleges in Australia? Why do we need to spend time and energy establishing CTCA and not just using the existing resources? I heard these questions being raised more than once and I would attempt to reflect on the role of CTCA. As a matter of fact, there is a great need for pastors and ministers and there are some well-established theological colleges in Sydney and in Australia.

To start with, let us try to understand the Chinese Christian churches in Australia in order to consider the requirements, in the quality and capabilities, of pastors to be working in Chinese Christian churches. Chinese Christian churches in Australia are mainly established by migrants who are Christians or by some Christian denominations extending their ministry to establish Chinese churches in Australia. A church called 'Chinese Christian Church' is because the church members migrated from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and South East Asia, or at least one of the congregations in that church uses Chinese, mostly Mandarin or Cantonese, to conduct services. In Chinese Christian churches, most of the adults are familiar with Chinese, use Chinese bibles and communicate in a Chinese language - Mandarin or Cantonese; some are able to use both.

In view of the present situation of Chinese Christian churches in Australia, pastors and ministers leading Chinese churches need to be competent in reading, writing and oral responding in Chinese. For speaking, they need to be fluent in both Mandarin and Cantonese. Furthermore, they also need to be able to communicate in English which is the official language in Australia. The next generation of those attending Chinese churches would be Australia-born Chinese, and if pastors and ministers in Chinese churches are not fluent in English they might not be able to connect with the next generation or misunderstanding might happen.

Therefore pastors working in Chinese churches are required to be competent in Chinese and English as well as in theology. In other words, they have to possess two written languages (Chinese and English) and three spoken languages (Mandarin, Cantonese and English).

For those local theological college students, they were taught in English, and if they have to serve in Chinese churches there would be discrepancy between what they have learnt and what they need. Unless they are proficient in Chinese, they would find it hard to satisfy the needs of Chinese churches. However, many students who have been accepted into local theological colleges are students who have been educated in Australia and their Chinese language might not be good enough to meet the needs of Chinese churches.

From the above reasons, it is not hard to understand there is the need for a college such as CTCA which plays an important role in preparing pastors and ministers to meet the needs of Chinese Christian churches in Australia. CTCA accommodates theological students who find it hard to study merely in English or students who prefer using Chinese to study. Students could in fact use this opportunity to learn to study in English for at present some core subjects are offered only in English. For those local students whose Chinese might not be so good, CTCA provides a good opportunity for them to be familiar with the Chinese culture and expressions which would be useful in their sermons and preaching.

'Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage - with great patience and careful instruction.' (2 Timothy 4:2)

I sincerely wish that CTCA produces not only students who have knowledge of theology but who are God's servants knowing two written and three spoken languages to meet the needs of Chinese churches in Australia, so that in the days to come, before the second coming of Jesus, we would have enough committed servants of God in Chinese Christian churches in Australia to pastor the flock, to proclaim the Good News and to extend the kingdom of God.

News update

♣ Praise the Lord! The 6th Theology Certificate and Diploma Graduation Ceremony was held in last November. This was also the 1st graduation ceremony of our Church Leader's Training course. Let's pray that these graduates will be God's devoted servants. Photos are posted on our website.

♣ There will be 3 terms of theology certificate and diploma courses. For course preview, please refer to our website.

♣ Application for the second semester 2012 degree courses is now open, the closing date is 15 May, please contact 0425 342 552 for details.

PRAYER POINTS

✠ Please pray for recruiting the second full time lecturer, that the Lord will call the suitable lecturer to the college.

✠ Pray for the students and lecturers of all courses and programs.

✠ Pray that many fellow Christians may share the vision of providing a Chinese Theological College in Sydney and become our long term sponsors.

✠ Pray for God to prepare a suitable site for college campus.

✠ Pray for the development of college library.