

AFC NEWSLETTER

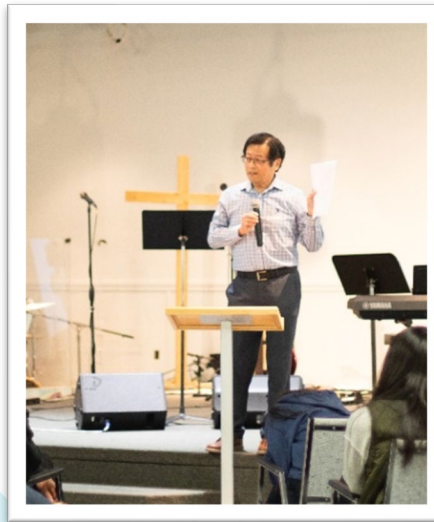
AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST IN CANADA

FROM THE DESK OF AFC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven." – Ecclesiastes 3:1

The time has come for me to say farewell to AFC and her supporters. It has been my privilege serving campus students through a team of very committed campus ministry staff for nearly twenty-one months. I must thank hundreds of volunteers who spent numerous hours and days making AFC sponsored annual events for students possible.

Speaking historically back in 1978, I received a personal invitation from Rev. Stephen D. Knights to serve at AFC. I responded by saying that I would love to return to AFC at His appointed time. Looking back over the events happened in the last two years, I realized that I had fulfilled my pledge even after forty years, i.e., "I will fulfil my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people" (Psalms 116:14).



In 2018, the Lord recycled me out of retirement from an engineering consultant business in Calgary; then rotated me from Western Canada back to the East as AFC Executive Director where I used to serve as Executive Director of Manna Multi Media Mission – (4M) in Montreal from 1975 to 1977 and graciously rejuvenated me through ministering to young and dynamic campus students in conjunction with AFC campus ministry staff.

I praise God for good health and ability to bring about key changes to AFC in less than two years. AFC began utilizing video-conference technology in 2019 allowing ministry staff to hold

meetings without travelling, to revamping AFC website to provide most recent news and events to the public, to appointing a full time Project Manager to work remotely from Ottawa, to implementing e-publications in 2020 to replace reliance on printed media, and to streaming of video production and events via real time online platforms for Teens Conference 2020 Beyond.

To my dear spiritual supporters and partners, my heartfelt thanks to your unceasing prayers and sacrificial givings for without which I would not be able to minister even just for one day in Toronto. As to my next ministry post, the almighty God knows what lie ahead for me. And I trust that He is paving the way for my next task.

May we all choose to be obedient to His high calling and be faithful to His word.

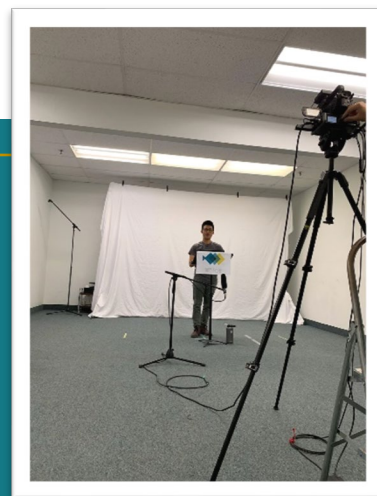
His servant,
John Chin

A GOD MOMENT AT TC BEYOND

Jaimee Sit, Student Volunteer (Team Captain)

The biggest God moment for me at TC this year was when I witnessed how because of God's grace, leadership decided to not give up on the conference. God is bigger than any pandemic or public pressures. He has unified hearts despite all the messiness. He knew what would happen and He prepared us to take things in stride.

God remained at the centre of it all and because of that, everything turned out okay and everyone is still encouraged by the Holy Spirit. There were no internal conflicts— just genuine work and collaboration towards the bigger picture. I think everyone grew much stronger from this experience. None of this would have been possible without God and that's truly amazing!



SHARING ON CANTONESE-SPEAKING CAMPUS FELLOWSHIPS / 事工分享 - 粵語大專學生團契

Timothy Chan, AFC Ministry Volunteer / 義務同工陳炳輝

自三月中最後一次到大學校園與學生一起查經後，多倫多各大學校區皆停止了所有實體的課堂，關閉所有設施，以至我只能運用不同的網上通訊工具與兩個粵語團契學生聯絡。Downtown 多大團契也使用這些工具來進行選舉新一屆的職員。在疫症持續這一段日子裏，除了無法與學生見面之外，本來已跟學生約定了考試後的查經、讀書小組，加上暑期的訓練、團契新學年的事工籌備會議，也只能以網上的通訊工具進行。過去也曾嘗試運用過這類通訊工具來為多倫多以外的團契領袖進行訓練或會議，但發覺會有一定程度的限制和影響。雖然我個人較喜歡面對面地接觸學生，而在疫情過去後將會重回大

學校園跟學生見面，但不得不承認運用網上通訊工具來進行大學校園宣教事工是可見將來的趨勢，所以也提醒自己要進一步思考和認識這工具的利與弊，以致能善用它來服侍這一代的學生。盼望主保守這暑期所進行的各類事工，能為學生和校園的宣教事工帶來裨益。



BEYOND VIRTUAL

Steve Tu, TC Leadership Team – Pastoral Advisor

It's Holy Week as I sit down to write this post-Teens Conference reflection. Schools in our city remain closed as we try to curb the spread of COVID-19. My oldest daughter is working from home on an assignment exploring the differences across generations.

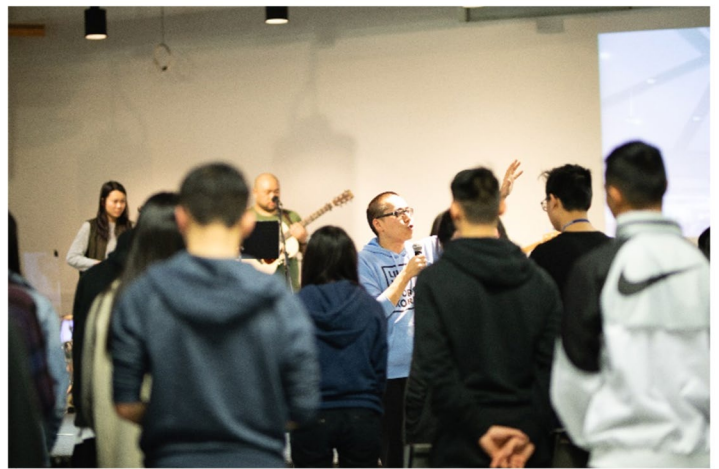
As a ninth-grade student, Samantha is part of Generation Z. Where some older folks, like me, are occasionally guilty of calling digital spaces "virtual" ones, such monikers don't exist in her lexicon to describe what feels to her like native land. There's nothing "virtual" about conversations that take place via text, video, or social media. Though these interactions may be mediated by screens and electronic technologies, the discussions she engages in are every bit as real as if she were having them across a table; each individual's presence is still "there."

Some of us are still trying to wrap our minds around where "there" is. Which is okay. We're here to help each other.

A few years ago, William Gibson, in an interview discussing the publication of his then-latest novel, *The Peripheral*, said "our geography [is] slowly dissolv[ing] into the digital."

We were forced to face that reality this year at Teens Conference. I'm so proud of the AFC staff and the many volunteers for meeting that challenge head on with prayer, hopefulness, and trust in the absolute sovereignty and goodness of God.

When our original hosts canceled our booking before any government edicts were pronounced, I confess to feeling incredible disappointment. That quickly gave way to thanksgiving, as another church welcomed us with open arms. And then the virus spread.



By the time you read this, it may well have gone to every nation and tribe and people and tongue; places, perhaps, where even Christ has not yet been named. Running TC in person was clearly no longer feasible.

In extremely short order, a new plan was put in place. I watched as young Christians from many different churches and denominations worked together to do something we had never done before. Instead of canceling the conference, these young brothers and sisters in Christ, pulled off something truly remarkable, by dint of their hard work and God working in them.

As a result, my two older children, along with hundreds and hundreds of other Generation Z teens, were still able to be part of TC 2020: No Rival. All of them missed being able to gather in person, of course. But thanks to the prayer-fueled efforts of our AFC staff and TC volunteers, none of these students were forced to miss out on a week of the powerful presence of our Lord Jesus. Wherever they gathered to chat with their small groups, or sat as they watched our speakers proclaim the good news, or our media and music teams lead in worship, Christ was there with them. Not virtually; really and truly. He still is.

NO RIVAL

Letty Wong, AFC Staff, Project Manager

Teens Conference 2020 has come and gone. To say it was like all the other TCs would be an understatement. This was probably one of the most challenging TCs that we've ever experienced. I have never had to make such hard decisions with weighty consequences and emotionally go through so many agonizing collective discernments.

From the beginning, we wanted each person from attendee to leadership to experience the truth that Jesus has "No Rival" in all circumstances. Boy, were we in for a ride. We started off way ahead of schedule with plans running like clockwork. None of us could have predicted the turn of events that would "unfold. Curve balls after curve balls were thrown at us, but God gave us such unity and peace. Many told us to panic and react to the COVID-19 situation in fear, but that further increased our desire to show that Jesus has victory over the worst outcome and truly has No Rival. We saw that TC was an opportunity for us to be a beacon of God's hope to this generation "for such a time as this".

God challenged us to trust in Him and pushed us beyond what we knew. With a lot of faith and creativity, we relied on Him as we moved the entire conference online in a matter of days. Through it all, we experienced God's goodness, faithfulness, and providence like never before. As we witnessed the Holy Spirit unite and move us into action, we marvelled at everything coming together by God's grace. That's the story of how TC Beyond came to be.

Even though there were times of heaviness, I loved the journey of experiencing this with the community I know and love so dearly. I am so thankful for this generation and this group of volunteers that I consider as family. Even in their disappointment, they didn't grumble but inspired others to keep going. There are no words to describe how thankful I am for each team's partnership and trust each step of the way.

We've reached an unbelievable new milestone together. I am so proud of what God has allowed us accomplish. Our theme, "No Rival", as we prayed over and over again, was



experienced in ways that we could never have imagined. It also became such a timely message in the midst of the chaos - for not only the students but for myself, our board, our staff, our leadership team, and all our volunteers.

I pray that "No Rival" continues to bring you hope as we care for our world by staying apart at this time. Our God knows. He's already won. When we remember this TC, may we always be encouraged to see trials and tribulations as opportunities and not limitations. May we have the courage to stand firm in unwavering hope because of who our God is.

As we head into the 50th year of TC, let's celebrate how God has been and continues to be so faithful. I'm confident that God's not done with the work He's doing through and around us. Please don't stop praying with me and encouraging this generation to see that the get to share in this legacy that God is writing in and through us. Now isn't that something to look forward to?



SHARING ON MANDARIN SPEAKING CAMPUS FELLOWSHIPS / 事工分享 - 国语大专学生团契

Ling Tian, AFC Ministry Associate / 同工田凌

正在全球流行的新冠病毒骤然间改变了人们的生活，也同样冲击了我们的校园事工。我们在约克大学的团契原计划参加枫糖节，从同学们已经交钱买了门票转为织活动的同学安排退票。团契常规的查经聚会也改为网上视频聚会。这里要感谢网络技术，通过视频，我们不仅能继续查经聚会，也完成了原计划的成员大会，确定了下届学生同工。感谢主我们有五位信主的同学愿意参与下一届的团契服事。我祷告神在这样的情形里该如何服事他们；我心里就生出了作爱心小礼包的念头。我买来了水果，巧克力，维他命 C 冲剂，加上鼓励卡片，送到了同学们家里。愿同学们能在神里面找到真正的满足和平安。



CC 2020 Reimagine registration is available now!

There are so many things that we need to reimagine during these unprecedented times. The Acts of the Apostles was like that too - we want to see the parallels with the Gospel movement in the early church and be encouraged to stand boldly and unwavering on the campus.

The kick-off is on May 16, 2020. We will have a bi-weekly follow-up meeting for the next three months, in a total of 6 sessions. In addition, our Advanced Leadership Training will be integrated with CC 2020. Registration fee is \$25.

Sign up now at <https://www.afccanada.org/cc-registration>

April 2020



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905.513.0713



Unit 12, 70 Gibson Drive, Markham, ON, Canada. L3R 4C2

Praise 讚美

- Being able to reach more people than we have ever imagined through TC Beyond
- Faithful community of volunteers, supporters & prayer partners
- New ministry opportunities that have emerged as a result of the lockdown
- New Post-Secondary fellowship leadership committees

Prayer 代求

- Unwavering faith in the midst of uncertainty
- Effective ministry through the new period of physical distancing
- This generation of students would encounter Jesus especially in times like this
- Upcoming events whose formats have been altered

Financial Report

Due to having transformed 2020 TC's physical gathering into Beyond - online streaming, AFC is rolling out refunds to all registrants based on their wishes. We are grateful to the registrants and their parents who donated part or all of the registration fees. Much indebted to those TC volunteers who donated their time and money to support the work. Please continue to pray for AFC ministry, for endurance, strength and wisdom from God, who provides.

	2020 Annual Budget	2020 January-March
<i>Donation</i>	\$524,560	\$101,176
<i>Ministry</i>	\$334,246	\$48,620
<i>Administration & Office</i>	\$285,985	\$55,586
<i>Deficit</i>	\$95,671	\$3,030

**BE PARTNERS
WITH US**

1. Make your cheque payable to "Ambassadors for Christ in Canada" and mail/send the cheque to Unit 12, 70 Gibson Drive, Markham, ON, Canada, L3R 4C2
2. Make an e-transfer donation to AFC via Interac e-Transfer to accounting@afccanada.org and specify its designation in the message box.
3. Visit our website for detail and/or donation form at: <http://www.afccanada.org>