



Agenda

**for the Annual General Meeting of Christ Church Bangkok
to be held on Sunday, 30th of April, 2023**

1. Welcome
 2. Opening prayer
 3. Apologies
 4. Minutes of the 2022 AGM
 - Approval of Minutes
 - Matters arising
 5. Appointment of Vicar's Warden
 6. Election of People's Warden
 7. Confirmation by the meeting of the Treasurer and Secretary as selected by the outgoing PCC.
 8. Presentation and Election of candidates for following positions:
 - 2 Synod Representative
 - 2 ACT Representative
 - 8 PCC Representatives
 9. Authorized Chalice Bearers
 10. Reports: Please refer to the relevant pages following in this booklet
 11. Treasurer's Report
 - Presentation of 2022 Accounts
 - Presentation of 2023 Budget
 - Proposal of Auditors for 2023
 12. Vicar's comments
 13. AOB
 14. Closing prayer
- * Note: Elections of PCC Members will be by secret ballot. Ballots will be counted by tellers and other ballots will be taken as needed until the election is completed.

CHRIST CHURCH BANGKOK

Minutes of the 2022 Annual Church Meeting held on 8th May 2022 in Li Hall

Chairman: Rev. Matthew Fitter

Meeting Secretary: David Record

In attendance 47 Electoral Roll Members

The meeting was called to order by Rev Matthew Fitter at 12:04

1. Welcome

Rev. Matthew Fitter extended a welcome to all in attendance He asked everyone to sign the attendance, checked that we had a quorum and then, with everyone in agreement, he proceeded.

2. Opening Prayer

Rev. Matthew Fitter opened the meeting with a prayer.

3. Apologies and Additional Nominations to the PCC

There were no apologies.

There were no additional nominations.

4. Minutes of the 2021 Annual Church Meeting

The minutes had been available to everyone for four weeks prior to the meeting and were to be taken as read. No changes were received or suggested from the floor.

4.1 Approval of the Minutes

Annette Sohn proposed that the minutes be accepted by the meeting as correct.
Seconded by Clare Messinck and passed without dissent.

4.2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Appointment of the Vicar's Warden

Rev. Matthew Fitter wished to put on record his thanks to the Vicar's Warden, Chris Rajakarier, who has accepted an invitation to continue in the role, and that she has accepted. This appointment was greeted with a spontaneous round of applause.

6. Election of the People's Warden

There was only one candidate for People's Warden, Edward Furaha. His being the only person nominated for the post, his appointment was accepted by the meeting without dissent and again, with a round of applause.

7. Confirmation by the meeting of the Treasurer & Secretary

7.1 Treasurer

Rev. Matthew Fitter advised that Princeya Artpradid has offered to continue as Treasurer for what would be an eighth successive year and the PCC have welcomed his offer. This announcement was accepted without dissent by a show of hands and round of applause in his favor.

7.2 Secretary

Rev. Matthew Fitter advised that David Record has offered to continue as Secretary for what would be an eighth time and the PCC have welcomed his offer. This was announcement accepted without dissent by a show of hands and round of applause in his favor.

8. Presentation of Candidates

8.1 PCC Members

Rev Matthew Fitter thanked the retiring PCC members, and advised that seven nominations had been received for the vacant positions on the Parochial Church Council.

Annette Sohn, Devin Tayne, Jeff Cook, Aphiwat Mankham, Brendan Coughlan, , Shirley Langgie, Jennifer Sawchenko,

Rev. Matthew Fitter had already again for additional PCC nominations at the start of the meeting, there were none and as there were enough candidates for the vacancies, all were duly appointed without dissent.

He thanked, Clare Messinck, Andrew Marsden and Gary Barnes who were stepping down from the PCC this year.

8.2 Synod Representative

Two nominations have been received for Synod Representative, Wezi Mukaka and Fingani Nyasulu.

Rev. Matthew Fitter asked for additional nominations, there were none and they were both duly appointed without dissent.

8.3 ACT Representative

One nomination has been received for an additional ACT Representative, Cindy Porter.

Rev. Matthew Fitter asked for additional nominations, there were none and she was duly appointed to her role without dissent.

9. Chalice Assistants

Rev. Matthew Fitter confirmed the list of approved Chalice Assistants until the next AGM.

10. Reports

The reports had been available to all for four weeks prior to the meeting and were taken to have been read. Rev. Matthew Fitter thanked everyone, for the support he has received and then made some brief comments about the reports.

10.1 Wardens Report

There was an update on how the Wardens had meet regularly with the new Vicar.

10.2 Children & Youth

The report of this group was self-explanatory and set out in the report,

10.3 Staffing

The report of this group was self-explanatory and set out in the report.

10.4 Liferaft

The role and report of this group was self-explanatory and set out in the report.

10.5 Outreach

The role and report of this group was self-explanatory and set out in the report.

10.6 Border Karen Ministry

The role and report of this group was self-explanatory and set out in the report.

11. Treasurer's Report

11.1 2021 Actual

Rev. Matthew Fitter thanked Princeya Artpradid for all his work as Treasurer.

Princeya Artpradid presented the finance report stating that the finances are healthy versus the deficit in 2020, the previous year.

He explained about the new sinking fund and donation related to RCDC

Gillian Robinson proposed the accounts for 2021 be received as correct, seconded by Clare Messinck, and accepted by the meeting without dissent.

11.2 2022 Budget

Princeya Artpradid gave a brief overview of the Budget for 2022

The PCC proposed the budget

They seconded by Gary Barnes and accepted by the meeting without dissent.

11.3 Auditors

Gillian Robinson proposed that we retain the services of the same auditor for 2022 who is a CPA called Suriya. This motion was seconded by Gary Barnes and accepted by the meeting without dissent.

12. Vicars Comments

Rev. Matthew Fitter began by saying he was open to questions at the end and thanked everyone for their warm welcome to Christ Church.

He thanked everyone for keeping the church running, even if he did not name you personally.

Rev Matthew Fitter gave specific thanks to the three PCC members stepping down and the new PCC members for stepping up.

He also thanked the Annette and the choir and all the Sunday musicians who received round of applause for their music

He especially acknowledged all the staff team, especially Okey, Panjit & Pak who is stepping down from her role and thanked her for her 6 years of service.

There was also thanks to Patty and all the ground staff for all they do, Gillian and John Robinson for their work with the Youth, Angela for the flowers, Shirley for her work with Women's Fellowship, Brenda for leading Pastoral, Jenifer for work on Outreach and Chris and Edward for their tireless work as Wardens.

Rev Matthew concluded the meeting with a quote from Scripture, Deuteronomy Ch.11, v11-12, on the part we all play in Bangkok to serve God.

13. AOB

There was no AOB

14. Closing Prayer

With no further matters arising, Edward Furaha offered a closing prayer and grace and the meeting adjourned at 12:55

Minutes taken by David Record,
PCC Secretary
May 8th, 2022

Chalice Bearer 2023

Adnan Anwar

Angela Fowles

Edward Furaha

Irene Candy

Jeff Cook

Gillian Robinson

John Robinson

Brenda Coughlan

Kent Maury

David Record

Marie Goode

Maria McMillan

Mary Vongsuly

Robin Shell

Sameer Innis

Shirley Langgie

Steve Goode

Chris Rajakarier

Jen Sawchenko

Wezi Mukaka

AGM Report 2023

The Bible verse for 2023 is *Hebrews 12:2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith*. This verse is a constant reminder to keep putting Jesus first in every are of our personal lives and also our church life together. As we seek to serve Jesus well, both what we do in serving the Lord matters, as does the way in which we do it. God is building His church here at Christ Church Bangkok and the more we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the more we will please Him in all that we do. Let's commit to live out this verse on a daily basis. Let's keep interceding that God would blow the revival wind of His Holy Spirit upon us and right across our local community.

Thank you being a part of God's church here at Christ Church Bangkok. May God bless you, grow you in your walk with Him and anoint you to serve Him powerfully in all that you are and do.

God bless you.

Matthew Fitter (Vicar)

Treasurer's Report 2022

Treasurer's Statement

By the Grace of God, Christ Church ended 2022 in a position of financial strength. Total Members' Offerings (1.4) of 7.0m THB and Other Income (1.11) of 4.3m THB, contributed to Total CCB Income (1.12) of 11.3m THB, exceeding budget by 6% as well as expenses (1.33) of 9.2 THB, leading to a strong surplus (1.34) of 2.1m THB at the CCB operations level.

To be highlighted was the impact of "Gift Day" which raised approximately 1.9m THB and ensured that the flow of funds into CCB remained positive for the year. The amount raised is testament to the faith and generosity of our congregation and benefactors as well as to the Providence of The Lord.

At the same time, despite commitment from continuing donor relationships coupled with well-managed costs, the Karen Ministry ended the year in deficit of 0.4m THB. This was covered by funds retained from previous years (totaling 7.8m THB) though the Ministry's financial health will need to be monitored closely going forwards.

In terms of further positives, the Sinking Fund for the Old Vicarage now stands at 3.1m THB while the amount put aside for the Youth/Assistant Pastor recruitment has risen to 0.8m THB.

The financial outlook for 2023 is cautiously positive. The Proposed 2023 Budget, projected for a small surplus, sees increased expenses for local transportation, hospitality and Children and Youth in line with our direction to provide greater flexibility and outreach in ministry, free Sunday lunches and also to support our growing Children and Youth ministry. In the mid-term there is the prospect of major capital projects and investments, especially in terms of renovation of the main church building as well as equipment to support worship and communication. This will be funded partly from our own funds as well as contributions to be raised on a project-by-project basis.

As always, I would like to take the opportunity to thank, on behalf of the PCC, all those who have supported the finance work in the past year and especially Khun Panjit for her hard work and patience.

Financials Details

Income

Total income of 11,351,272 THB (1.12) in 2022 was 6% above budget and 20% above the 2021 figure. General Offerings (1.1) of 4,803,450 THB were 20% below budget for the year and were bolstered by Gift Day contributions of around 1.9m THB (reported under 1.3 Others) which boosted the overall total received. There was no income for Children and Youth (1.5) while income for Goods/Facilities (1.8), at 1,936,625 THB, recovered to close to budget levels (3% below).

Expenses

Total expenses for Christ Church (1.33) in 2022 were 9,177,320 THB which is 12% below budget although 9% above last year. The majority of expense line items were below budget with the main two cost overruns of travel-local (1.15) and Hospitality (1.31) being due to changes in operational direction (car rental for church use and recommencement of Sunday lunches) during the year.

Karen Ministry

The Karen Ministry reported a net deficit of 423,039 THB (3.11) for 2022. Donations (3.6) were below budget across all categories and, at 2,173,751 THB, were at 66% of the total budgeted. This was somewhat offset by lower overall expenditure at 2,596,789 THB (13% below budget). The overall funds for the Karen Ministry stand at 7,449,917 THB which amounts to around 18 months' worth of running costs after 3.0m THB has been ringfenced for facility and infrastructure investment.

Project Expenditures

Although there was no specific push to limit Project investments, less than 30% of the budgeted 620,000 THB was used in 2022. We expect increased Project Investments in 2023.

Sinking Fund and Youth Ministry

As a result of the agreement with the Thai congregation and Rainbowland Child Development Centre (RCDC) regarding the use of the Old Vicarage building in 2021, a Sinking Fund for the maintenance of the building was established as well as a monthly contribution towards the Youth Ministry. The Sinking Fund stood at 3.1m THB at the end of 2022. In addition, the amount put aside for the support of a Youth Pastor (or assistant vicar) for CCB stood at 791,297 THB.

Overall Financial Position

The overall financial position for Christ Church strengthened in 2022. Church funds stand at 23,747,292 THB with a net inflow of funds of 2,652,412 THB during the year. Provisioning and allocations for various items and contingencies totaled 18,289,553 million THB (the major items being 3.0m THB for air-conditioning replacement, 7.4m THB for the Karen Ministry, 3.1m THB for the RCDC Sinking Fund as well as 3.0m THB as a general contingency fund). As a result, Christ Church has cash availability of 5,457,740 THB for day-to-day operations which is equivalent to around 6 months of operating expenses.

2023 Financial Outlook

The financial outlook for 2023 is cautiously positive. The Proposed 2023 Budget sees increased expenses for local transportation (mainly the rental car which has been of great use in ministry), hospitality (allocation for Sunday Lunches) and Children and Youth expenses to support the growth in that ministry. In the mid-term there is the prospect of major capital projects and investments, especially in terms of renovation of the main church building as well as equipment to support worship and communication. This will be funded partly from our own funds as well as funds to be raised on a project basis (both internally and externally). Investment figures will be provided as and when available.

**Karen Ministry 2022/2023 Committee: Chair Chris Rajakarier ; Globe (Aphiwat)
Mankan, Fingani Mphande, and Prince Artpradid**

Brief overview of the group: *“To provide spiritual and practical support working towards a greater degree of self-reliance”*

Our 3 targets to achieve this year

- I. Develop a 5-10-year strategic plan for Karen Ministry
- II. Broaden the involvement of CCB congregation
- III. Prepare a one-year budget to ensure greater transparency and accountability
- IV. Complete preparation and building plan for Volunteer accommodation and general maintenance

Target I: Develop 5-10 year strategic plan for Karen Ministry:

- Achieving sustainability and greater self-reliance for our partners at Noh Bo Academy have been and will be our overarching aim for the next 5-10 years. This goal has guided our efforts in developing a larger strategic plan for Karen Ministry. We are in our third year in our strategic development, and the global pandemic has had a direct impact on our progress. Despite these challenges, we have built upon the initiatives set previously.

Year 1 (2019-2020)

- Identified specific objectives that must be met for Noh Bo to achieve greater self-reliance and sustainability, which include **growing some of their own food, collecting some of their own water supply**, and developing income-generating activities. These goals were the product of discussions with key stakeholders at Noh Bo.
- Develop clean water infrastructure: to install guttering around the larger buildings to channel rainwater during the monsoon season into large containers.
- Supporting economically sustainable agriculture projects with the generous funding from Australian Anglican Aid to support chicken, fish, fruit and vegetable farming, as well as related infrastructural improvements, including those related to water collection and storage.

Year 2 (2020-2021)

- It was identified that we needed someone at ground level in Noh Bo to achieve our zealous strategic development. We also identified fundamental changes to the management and administrative systems, staff structure, the roles and responsibility of the staff and student curriculum for greater transparency and self-reliance. We had to encourage ideas and ownership and to re-form the basic structure of Noh Bo, as well as the fundamental ethos to match our strategic plan.
- **The four key areas that incorporated the CCB strategic plan**
 - I. Evaluate and redistribute the **roles and responsibilities of the teachers and staff**. Empower the staff to take their roles with guidance and support. Draft the school management policies, including financial procedures and procurements, to enable greater transparency.
 - II. The school principal should focus on **managing and developing staff, all while monitoring current teachers**.
 - III. Review and **implement financial procedures** for the school financial management system.
 - IV. Assess the **curriculum of the school and the grade system**, especially the final two years (the special 1 & 2 classes). This is also part of shaping the objectives of the school to be in accordance with the community's future-plans, creating ownership and working towards sustainability. Identify subjects and curriculum that will lead to jobs. Involve the community education partners, alumni students who are leaders of higher education in the community.

Year 3 (2021-2022)

- The impacts of the coronavirus pandemic swept across the world including Thailand. After relatively slow spread of the virus in 2020, Delta variant hit Thailand severely in May 2021. The challenges of the virus have truly been nationwide, even reaching the extremities of Thailand so it was only a matter of time before it reached Noh Bo and the Mae La camp and has had a great impact on the boarding school students, the orphanage and the 3 nurseries run by our Karen Ministry.
- The outbreak of Covid spread rapidly in Noh Bo academy and the staff team managed this situation well. The assembly hall and classrooms were Karen Ministry team sent emergency supplies and medical equipment desperately needed to treat the students in our care.
- The agriculture projects and animal raising projects were launched. The students had an opportunity to help build the pond and treat it. The students were taken on a fact-finding trip to a Chicken farm and learnt how to raise chicken. Then they had an opportunity to help build the chicken coop and prepare it and raise 100 chickens. The student built the pig pen and the Noh Bo students raised three pigs into maturity.

Year 4 (2022-2023)

- The Australian Anglican Aid are funding the sustainability project in Noh Bo, despite the pandemic we soldiered on with the development. The students who are boarders are split into 3 groups and they rotate in taking responsibility for animal raising, fresh vegetables and fruit farming or helping in the catering and cooking in the school. This enabled students to learn new skills and prepare them for their future. The aim of the projects is to promote self-reliance and to educate the students on a potential livelihood. We are thankful for Australian Anglican Aid for their ongoing commitment.
- Fish Farming: lessons were learnt from the first cycle of fish raising. The second cycle of raising fish is completed. Some fish were sold, and others consumed by the students. In the future a more sustainable use of water in fish farming needs to be explored, to conserve water when raising fish.
- Chicken farming: School has been raising egg chickens for one year and currently, egg production rate has decreased and the size are smaller than before. The collected egg rate is 60-65 eggs per day. The estimate costs for one month is around 7000THB and total income for a month is 7500 THB. The students are given eggs 2-3 times a week this has increased their nutritional intake which is vital for their growth and development. We intend to sell the chicken in March and will buy new chicks for second cycle of chicken raising in the end of May.
- Pig Farming: This year, school raises 7 pigs, and the growing rate is good. Pig raising has a great success and we hope to make a good profit for the school. Leftover foods from the kitchen are collected, mix with feeds and rice bran to feed the pigs. So far, we have sold 4 pigs and hope to sell before the end of term. The student given one pig for their own use and they enjoyed pork curry which was an absolute treat and luxury for the underprivileged students
- Agriculture and vegetable farming: Agriculture is doing well. The students are growing long beans, ladies' fingers, Morning glory, Roselle, long bean, Chilli, lettuce, gourd and turmeric for use. This has been a successful project and increased the consumption of vegetable in the students' dietary needs. can have some fresh vegetables during school year. The high yields that we harvest for this year is turmeric as there is enough to consume for the whole year and even sell at the market.

- Recycling water: we have install gutters around the boarding house and now using the water for agriculture.
1. Plan for the future: Our key area of development is to continue work on our sustainability projects. To continue to install gutters around the larger buildings to channel rainwater during the monsoon season into large water tanks at several points. Secondly, building an irrigation system to channel the water to the vegetation. We are looking for funding to install more gutters and channel rainwater during the rainy season into large tanks which can be used for vegetable and fish farming.
 2. Review **sustainability activities**. This will cover areas such as fundraising, communications, inventory, as well as regulations on gardening farming and the use of school buildings. Our strategy has evolved despite the global turbulence caused by the pandemic, and we are thankful for the contribution made by Saw Richard and Saw Smile.

Target II: Broaden the involvement of CCB congregation

- We sought to increase involvement of the CCB community in terms of practical and financial support. Despite the pandemic impacted a team of volunteers visited all 5 establishments under the umbrella of Christ Church Karen Ministry in June. In January we had visitors from Ashtead visited Noh Bo.
- Improvements were made in the accounting systems, budgets, reporting to CCB including the financial procedures and office management. CCB staff are working closely with Noh Bo
- Okey Okafor who leads our worship organised two music concerts to raised funds for the Karen Ministry. The Lighthouse Youth Ministry had a bakes sale for Karen Ministry.

Target III: Prepare a one-year budget and create greater transparency and accountability.

- Our accounts tell the trials of the past year as we continue in our mission to fundraise for the Karen students. Funding from outside and CCB donations declined sharply, necessitating budget cuts by the Karen Committee. Yet through lockdown, CCB ensured food and salaries were secure, largely due to those who dug deep into their wallets, to whom we are very thankful. Distance learning and safety measures were put in place so students could learn.
- The management system and administrative procedures set up locally is working well; Saw Richard continues to train the staff, coach and supervise, with the view of empowering the local team to manage Noh Bo with proper accountability and transparency for stakeholders and donors.
- We are reviewing budget and accounting practices with a plan to implement further auditing and review. This will facilitate greater transparency and accountability.
- We are grateful to the generous sponsors who have helped us achieve our goals this year and hope you will continue to support us.

Target IV: Volunteer accommodation and Maintenance: The old volunteer home is infested with termite and in need of serious upgrade to enable volunteers to have a safe comfortable accommodation and increase accommodate capacity. The architect design for the new volunteer accommodation building has been created by Globe Mankan, we are working on the plumbing and electrical drawings. We are thankful to Globe for donating his skills for this project.

We have hired a Sustainability and Maintenance officer named Saw Smile and he has worked hard it continuing to lead the sustainability projects and ground level and continue to work on general maintenance of Noh Bo.

The projects we plan to work on next two years

3. **Volunteer accommodation:** Rebuild and upgrade volunteer accommodation to increase the number of long stay volunteers. Rough estimate of 1.5 million
4. **Kitchen: rebuild or renovate the kitchen and food storage area:** Build more storage for safe and sanitary storage of produce (fresh and preserved). Elevate washing area for increased sanitary safety, renovate and replace coal cookers to gas for health and hygiene reasons. It's essential to secure funds for gas due to health and safety reasons.
5. **Classrooms & Assembly Hall:** Apply cement sealer to all classrooms and the assembly hall. Treat wood panels for termites to ensure safety of students.

For the next 5-10 years:

- **Dining room:** Renovate or rebuild to avoid flooding
- **Drainage:** create suitable drainage for the rainwater thus eliminating flooding to ensure a safe and sanitary environment.
- **Girls and Boys dormitory:** upgrade or rebuild student dormitory to protect the students from the elements.
- **Teachers' accommodation:** new housing for the male and female teachers to protect them from the elements.

Christ Church continues to support a number of Christian Outreach Projects, based in Bangkok and beyond. We have still maintained our policy of giving 10% of our regular Sunday collections to support charitable organizations. This is determined by donating a sum equivalent to 10% of the previous year's offerings.

At the beginning of 2023 we learned that general offerings were below the previous year's level. The Outreach Committee requested and received approval from the PCC to use an additional 100,000 baht from what was collected during Gift Day so that we wouldn't have to reduce the level of support previously given to those organizations we are most involved with as a congregation, i.e. Liferaft and Place of Grace. In fact, we were able to increase our support for Place of Grace in 2023 to help compensate for rising costs of living and their plans to open a safe house this year. We are grateful the Lord has provided for this.

In the latest PCC year (May 2022-April 2023), the outreach groups supported by Christ Church (ordered by level of support) were the following: (Exact donation amounts available upon request)

1. LifeRaft International - support for urban refugees in Bangkok
2. Place of Grace - Children's clubs, food bank and education center for children in economically poor areas in Bangkok; Ministry of John & Gillian Robinson
3. Shalem House - main outreach of the Thai congregation; houses parents of sick children and families of patients from other provinces receiving medical care at Chula Hospital
4. Creative Life Foundation - connects vulnerable and marginalized families in urban and rural Thailand to critical resources that create a path to freedom and prevents human trafficking through education, citizenship projects and relief
5. Thailand Bible Society* - bible translation and production ministry
6. Timothy House - in Mae Sot; a boarding home for minority students attending secondary school; supported by the Anglican Church in Thailand

*The funds set aside for Thailand Bible Society were used in the purchase of bibles to support Reverend Matthew's regular bible giving to those he shares the Gospel with through the church.

Harvest Sunday

Donations of goods given during the Harvest Festival and other times are also given in addition to our charitable giving as detailed above, to support the groups in a more practical way. A food drive was held during our last harvest festival in October 2022 when donations of food supplies were collected to help restock the food bank at Place of Grace.

Outreach Sunday

Our Outreach Sunday event was held on Sunday, November 6th, 2022 in the church garden and was a big hit. This was the first in-person event held for Outreach Sunday since the pandemic started and everyone seemed really happy about it. The organizations present included those we currently support (with the exception of Timothy House) but also several organizations we have supported in the past or have Christmas items to sell. Each organization had a table to share information and sell items. The youth hosted a bake sale as well and the proceeds went to support the Karen Ministry at Noh Boh Camp in Northern Thailand.

During the service each of the organizations was introduced and called up front to receive prayer from the congregation. One highlight this year was hearing the testimonies of several students at Place of Grace. Hearing directly from these kids about how knowing Jesus has changed their lives demonstrated first-hand how the church's support has made a difference. Everyone really enjoyed this event and I received numerous positive reports from the congregation as well as from the organizations who participated.

The IDC (immigration detention center) visitation ministry that was on-going for many years before the pandemic has been on hold since early 2020 when visitors were no longer allowed inside to visit detainees. Many of the people we were visiting have been released on bail and have either been resettled or are still living with their families in Bangkok. Several attempts to regain access to any current detainees so far have failed. We pray that God will make a way for us to resume this valuable ministry.

Please see attached for ministry reports from Place of Grace and LifeRaft

Place of Grace



Learning Centre

Date: 1 March 2023

Dear Members of Christ Church PCC,

We would like to give a brief report on the Work of the Place of Grace Foundation over the year 2022-2023. We have been a foundation for about 8 years, and all accounts are audited by Khun Dai, the same auditor that the church uses. The funds for most of the costs come through this foundation account from the UK, which is also a registered charity.

We have been continuing to run after school clubs and a foodbank and small groups to support children living in the 5 surrounding slum communities.

We also started a full-time Learning Centre two and a half years ago, and currently have 22 students, all coming from the surrounding slum communities. All are learning using an American Curriculum in English, which will give them opportunities to remove themselves and their families from poverty in the future. All are also learning about God as part of the curriculum.

We employ 3 full-time staff for the school, plus two for the clubs, as well as John and myself who work full-time. We have 2 further full-time staff working at the clubs and foodbank and cooking a nutritious meal at lunchtime for the students, but are seeking a full-time administrator to cope with the increasing burden of paperwork for both.

We are also in the process of purchasing a neighbouring house for a safe house, as some of our students are not safe living within the communities, as well as increased space for the school so we can take in new students who constantly ask us.

Thankyou for your support,

Place of Grace Foundation, 14 Suan Luang Ville 2, Prawet, Bangkok 10250 Thailand

Email: placeofgracebkk@gmail.com

John and Gillian Robinson

CHRIST CHURCH ASYLUM SEEKERS & REFUGEES
Report for Outreach Team for Christ Church PCC - March 2023

My last 3 reports all started with the difficulties for our refugee families in dealing with COVID and online church services, etc. Gratefully this report begins with the church being fully open and active with Rev Matthew & Guen having been here for almost a year. We have been blessed and encouraged to see them settling into the life of CCB and particularly for me to see them embrace the overall outreach ministry including the refugees and all their needs and concerns.

During COVID the process of interviews and resettlement literally stopped for those here in Bangkok. It is with joy that I can report that between April 2022 & March 2023 we have had 3 families and 2 singles resettled in Canada or Australia.

Currently we have a list of 58 people (includes children) of those we consider CCB AS/Refugees. These are people who attend CCB regularly and many serve the church and are involved in activities at the church. As recently reported the Lighthouse ministry had exponentially grown and many of our refugees are helping to staff that program.

Of our 17 family groups, 11 have identified sponsorships for a 3rd country - some only beginning to complete an application and others have a visa stamped in their passport and ready to go...

We currently have 10 of our family groups involved in the Life Raft Program representing a total of 37 adults/children. By way of the Outreach Committee - CCB makes a donation 2x a year to Life Raft and all of these funds are used for CCB families. We are grateful for the partnership & service of Life Raft.

We have a waiting list of approximately 10 families who desire to be involved in Life Raft but to do so each must find an Advocate to be their link with Life Raft and as the church's funds are presently all committed, they must find a Sponsor as well.

Recently we have seen many new refugee arrivals particularly from Pakistan. The situation is still the same in Thailand that after the visa on which they enter expires, they are considered illegal and can be arrested and taken to the Immigration Detention Center which is not desirable for anyone. Resettlement to a 3rd country remains a long and arduous process that even when a sponsor is found, the application process can take 2+ years.

On behalf of the CCB Asylum Seeker/Refugee Community, thank you for your open hearts and generous spirits. May we seek God together for this new year to see new ways to be God's hand extended to those in need around us.

Marie Goode
Life Raft Rep for CBKK

AGM Report from Children and Youth Ministry

March 2022-March 2023

Committee members: Brenda Coughlan, Devin Arenas, Guen Fitter, Wezi Mukaka, John Robinson, Fingani Nyasulu

The Committee had set out three main goals for the year 2022-2023.

1. Grow the knowledge and love of God for the children and youth

1. Organize a curriculum for the ministry
2. Provide required materials for the teachers for weekly lessons
3. Provide materials for the children such as books and Bibles that they can use at home to grow in their faith
4. Give opportunity to the children and youth to learn more about God through
5. Participation in plays e.g. Nativity and Easter.

This goal was accomplished, the children and youth have shown eagerness to learn the word of God. The youth and children took active roles in the nativity play and are familiar with reading the Bible during Sunday lessons. Currently preparations are on the way for Palm Sunday and Easter.

2. Recruit youth minister and more teachers

1. Processes are underway to recruit a youth minister
2. There is need for more teachers as some of the teachers are leaving

Although a youth minister has not yet been recruited, the committee is glad to report the appointment of a lighthouse leader. On 1st November 2022, the ministry welcomed a full time Lighthouse leader, Khun Patty James. Khun Patty is involved with management of lighthouse, the youth and tiny tots, day to day activities (Table 1). She has also worked on building collaborations locally and internationally with local and international Christian organizations. She played a big role hosting the Indonesian Bible College team and has been collaborating with other Christian groups around Bangkok and Thailand. With lighthouse team, evangelism activities were also carried out including Christmas outreach at RCDC and a kindergaten in Klongchan. Khun Patty brought in a teacher integrated system where a new teacher is able to sit in and watch a lesson in practice. Teacher training workshops have been planned to help new teachers prepare their lessons and manage their classes. She has also been working to promote Christ Church Bangkok at various events including *Ploenchit fair* and *Living in Bangkok* where together with the team they set up booths with children's activities. The youth and children's ministry team organized a Christmas party in December

2022. The children had a wonderful time. The involvement of parents also added a great touch to it.

The ministry also said goodbye to several teachers who have since moved to Canada and Australia. We are grateful for their time and dedication to the ministry. The ministry is thus in need of more teacher to assist with the growing number of children.

Table 1- Highlights on Upcoming Lighthouse Activities

<u>Lighthouse administration areas</u>	<u>Light house Ministry areas:</u>
Teachers and helpers training by Guen completed on 19 March 2023	Distribute Youth Bible to Youth group members on Easter day.
Recruiting new teachers, helpers, safeguard team including admin for Light house	Distribute Easter story booklet to the kid's aged 3-10 years.
Prepare Easter Activities including Palm Sunday performance.	Encourage parents to participate in class lesson at home. (Using what's app platform & notice sheet).
Working on light house team building & teacher Training schedule on 23 April 2023	
Coordinate with Teachers and helpers on day-to-day issues.	
Tiny Tots manual and photograph policy.	
Tiny Tots playgroup inventory. (Toys& equipment)	
Snack and stationary inventory.	
Light house & Tiny Tot's playgroup update activities displayed on CCB English notice board in Li Hall.	

3. Organize events for the ministry

- a. Christmas party
- b. Nativity
- c. Easter
- d. Other events that may be announced in the course of the year

Parents and children enjoyed a wonderful Christmas party and participated in the nativity and other Christmas activities that were organized by the lighthouse leader with the support of the

lighthouse team, teachers and committee. Plans for Easter activities are on the way and teachers will play a pivotal role in preparing lessons in line with Easter. The lighthouse leader will coordinate all activities.

Growth

Since the easing of COVID-19 restrictions and full opening of the church, the ministry has observed a steady growth in numbers of children of all ages attending Lighthouse; with attendance ranging between 60 -80 children per week (Figure 1). The growth has also ushered in the need for more teachers and calls for vigilance in the area of child protection. The increase in numbers has been highest in the 10-12 years age group so much so that the class was moved to a bigger space to accommodate the growing number of children.

Despite the growth in numbers of children and youth attending the ministry, there have been very few girls joining the youth group even though there are a number of girls in this age group attending CCB church services. It is therefore our plea to encourage girls to join the youth group and for more female volunteers to work alongside our youth. While the youth group has benefitted from the many Children's ministry events and the opportunities to be involved in CCB church services and fairs, we see a need for a youth minister that could cultivate a youth group culture that would allow our youth space to grow. We recognize the need for this age group to differentiate themselves and to grow in their unique identity. Our goal in hiring a youth group leader is to help them find that identity firmly in Christ.

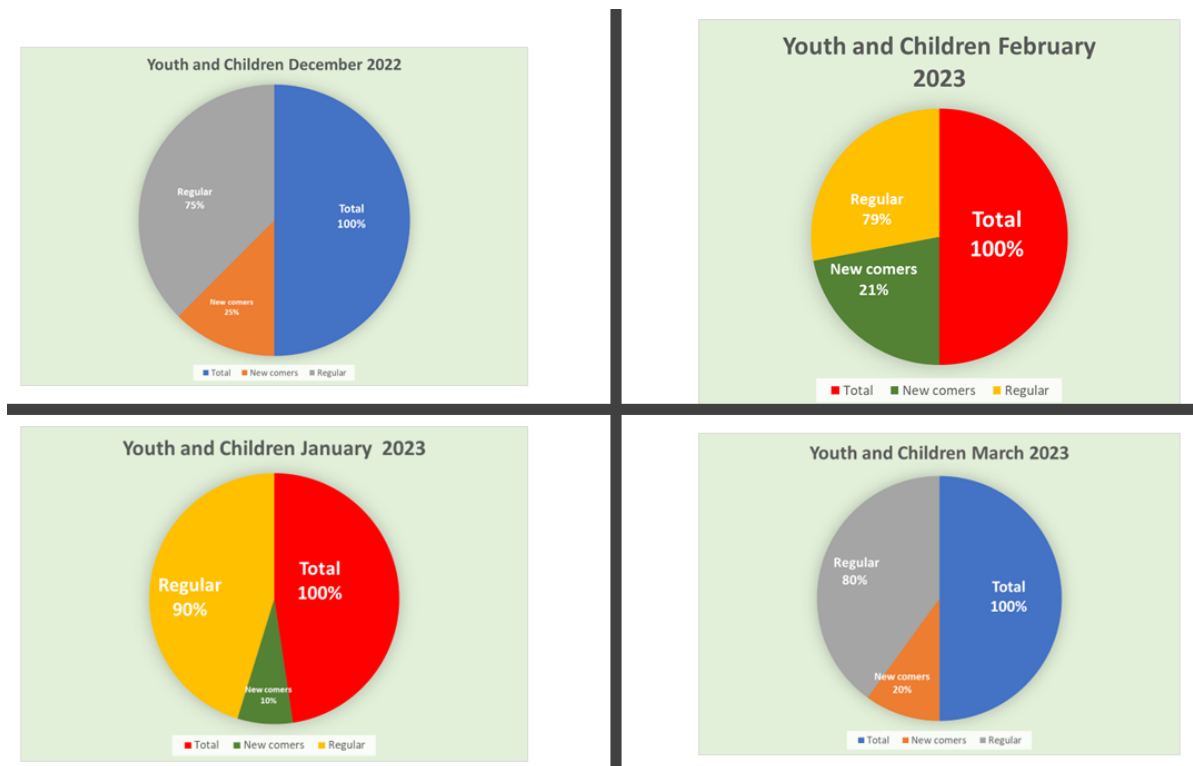


Figure 1- General attendance 2022- 2023 of Youth and Children

The Curriculum

The Urban saints curriculum has been helpful to the teachers in planning for lessons and activities for the children. The curriculum requires an annual subscription and so far, the subscription has been renewed until early 2024.

Tiny Tots

Tiny Tots reopened in February 2023 and the attendance has been steady. Approximately 18-27 families attend the activities every Wednesday. As part of fellowship, the lighthouse leader Tiny Tots parents and nannies Club meets once a month, this is done as part of evangelism and also to know the parents and nannies.

Collaboration with Other Ministries

The youth and parents from lighthouse participated in a bake sale to raise money for the Karen ministry. The bake sale was part of the Outreach Sunday organized by the Outreach ministry. The Children and Youth ministry together with the Women's fellowship organized cakes and various confectionaries. The youth helped with arranging the booths and selling the various products.

Acknowledgements

Lastly this ministry could not have achieved all these without the dedication of teachers, committee members, helpers, the lighthouse team, the lighthouse leader and all the wonderful support from the parents, the PCC, the vicar and the church. A big thank you to Brenda and Guen for helping out with the various events, curriculum and scheduling and making sure the ministry was on track with its activities. Most of all we thank God for such a wonderful team and for seeing the ministry through all its activities this year. Thank you very much for all your dedication and wonderful work, may God richly bless you.

SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP REPORT – JAN.2022 TO APRIL 2ND 2023

The PCC Social team represents the PCC, in organizing church activities to foster closer fellowship within the congregation. Through organized social activities, Christ Church has become 'Home' for the congregation as the church desire to reach out and nurture the church environment.

Women's Fellowship support and work closely with the PCC Social team to organize church activities. It provides opportunities to participate in the life and work of the church. It also provides an opportunity for fellowship, extending our circle of friends within the church.

Four meetings of Women's Fellowship were conducted in 2022 and one in 2023

- 1st Meeting – 16th Jan.2022
- 2nd Meeting – 1st May 2022
- 3rd Meeting – 31st July 2022
- 4th Meeting – 04th Dec. 2022
- 1st Meeting – 29th Jan. 2023

Social Activities :

- April 3rd, 10th, 2022 – Rev. Matthew's Welcome lunch with PCC and key members of the congregation.
- April 9th 2022 – Palm Sunday Preparation and Easter activity - Easter Eggs presentation to children by Gwen
- April 24th 2022 - Welcome lunch event for Bishop Titus visit and celebration for Rev. Matthew
- May 2022 – PCC Worship team collaboration with student music club from International School.
- November 6th – Outreach activities in the church garden.
- November 20th – Rev. Matthew's Birthday celebration, Former vicar Rev. Cook & Ineka and Javita College Group visits.
- December – Christmas season activities
- February 2023 – Shrove Tuesday Pancakes fellowship
- March 31st 2023 – Palm Sunday Crosses Making of 300 pieces
- April 1st 2023 – Church Palm Sunday Decoration
- April 2nd 2023 - Palm Sunday Service at 10.00 am – High attendance of 400 worshippers

The PCC Church Social committee members : Shirley Langgie (Chair), Wezi Mukaka, Fingani Mphande, Brenda Coughlan and Adenan Muttu.

The Women's Fellowship committee members: Shirley Langgie (chair), Angela Fowles, Irene Candy, Liana Ogan, Advisers - Miranda Songsiridej and Mary Vongsuly.

Christ Church Bangkok Staffing Committee – 2022 Report

The Staffing Committee had not had a formal Chair since the March 2022, and much of the work in the interim was supported by the Wardens, the Staffing Committee members, the Administrator, and other PCC members. A new Chair was identified in December 2022. Current members include: Chris Rajakariar, Mary Vongsuly, Roderick Turner, and Annette Sohn (Chair).

Major highlights from 2022 are below.

1. Rev. Matthew Fitter was appointed as the new Vicar of Christ Church Bangkok in March 2022.
 - a. A detailed 10-week induction plan was organized by the Wardens for a smooth orientation into the new position.
 - b. A series of Fellowship activities were organized on Sundays by the Wardens and Rev. Matthew to introduce him and his wife Guen to the congregation.
 - c. Individual meetings were set up with church leadership and representatives who coordinate activities, Committee Chairs, the Anglican Church in Thailand (ACT), Rainbow Child Development Center, the Thai congregation, and heads of departments.
 - d. "Buddies" were introduced for Rev. Matthew and Guen to help settle into the country.
 - e. A "go-to" list was created with information about Bangkok.
2. An induction service was held in April 2022 to formally welcome Rev. Matthew and Guen.
3. Patty James was selected as the new Children and Youth Ministry leader in November 2022. Patty works full-time and covers administrative tasks one day a week. We are thankful to Gillian Robinson for her service and contributions to the ministry over the past few years. The Children and Youth Ministry Committee managed all activities between the two appointments, and we are thankful for their leadership and contributions as well.
4. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, salaries were frozen for grounds staff who care for the church facilities and office staff who coordinate church activities. After careful review of church finances and discussion with the PCC, year-end salary increases were re-instituted to take effect in 2023.
5. The Committee's objective and aims were updated.
 - a. Primary objective
 - i. To provide oversight and monitoring of the staffing of Christ Church Bangkok to ensure a well-functioning and effective work force.
 - b. Aims
 - i. Assist with identifying and addressing staffing needs, including reviewing and approving new and existing positions and salaries for office and grounds staff.
 - ii. Complete documentation of employment contracts, job descriptions, and related information, in coordination with the Administrator.
 - iii. Determine staff training needs, in coordination with the Administrator.
 - iv. Assist with addressing challenges with job performance, in coordination with the Administrator and the Vicar.
 - v. Advise on and coordinate salary adjustments and year-end cash gifts for individual staff members, in coordination with the Treasurer.

Wardens' Report for Annual General Meeting – 2022 / 2023

The Wardens have been in this position for a period of one year, from May 8th 2022 up to the Christ Church AGM today, April 30th, 2023.

Highlights of the Wardens' year are listed below:

1. Together with the PCC and some members of the congregation, we worked on and completed an induction plan to welcome Mathew and Guen into the church community. This helped Mathew and Guen quickly settle into life here in Bangkok.
2. Continually reviewed with the PCC the COVID-19 rules and regulations as set by the government that ensured a safe and smooth easing of the same thereby allowing the vibrant church life back again. The number of those attending church services has significantly increased.
3. Worked closely with the PCC and the search committee on the recruitment of the Children ministry leader. We've witnessed growing numbers in this ministry since her recruitment.
4. We've maintained our monthly meetings with Rev Mathew, to ensure we have a smooth running of the church activities and plans.
5. We conducted a successful six months review for the vicar, which is aimed at improving our working relationship and discussing the vicar's work plan.
6. Together with the PCC worked on developing a new church logo that was more reflective of our church community and which will be in line with the vision and mission we are setting for our church.
7. Worked closely with the PCC in approving the recruitment of an associate pastor and planning to move this agenda forward by getting a Job description ready then advertise and recruit for the position as soon as possible.
8. Worked closely with the administrator, the vicar and the PCC in reorganising the job role of the assistant administrator, which is now partly being handled by Patty as part of her job.
9. Together with the PCC, we've maintained the monthly PCC prayer meetings where we share and pray for the church and issues at hand.

10. Organised the yearly welcome/introductory meeting with new PCC members to bring them up to speed with matters concerning the PCC and the church in general. This has helped members in the committee to collectively and actively participate move our church forward.
11. Together with the PCC, we approved a proposal for a car for the vicar to use in his pastoral care duties and also help in his mobility.
12. Grounds and maintenance: With Dr. Ben's help, the chairman of Thai engineering council Dr. Thanee Verasiri with his team, came to inspect the cracks, subsidence level and water damage on our church building. This is part of the ongoing work to ensure the church building is well maintained and structurally secure.

Chris Rajakarier ... Vicar's Warden

Edward Furaha ... People's Warden