



# Hills Christian Alliance Church Newsletter

2012Theme: Committed to Christ  
Jul – Dec Subtheme: Spread the Gospels

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## Letter from Margie

Margie Hall



My Dear Friends,

There is always a place of thanksgiving in the life of a believer in Christ. May I share with my brothers and sisters at HACA my heartfelt thanks for your support and prayers. Some of you visited us at home which meant so much to Tony and I.

The worst day was the next after my fall, but that evening after Rev Li, Marianna and Rachel visited and prayed and when dawn came the next day I was so much better. I praise the Lord who brings His people to one who is in need and answers their prayers.

In the last few weeks I have been overwhelmed. The incredible fall, God's amazing Grace, and the precious love and care from so many friends with visits, phone calls, messages on Facebook from so many of my family's friends, cards and meals for Tony while I was hospitalized, and now that I am home, for us both.

Tony has been so wonderful looking after me. I started to recover quicker once I was home.

My devoted family have shown much sacrifice of time to help me recover from the shock of survival while they themselves needed to process their own thoughts. The 16 grandchildren have been a blessing too.

All of the above have played a vital part in my recovery. We have seen God carry us

many times through the unknown road but the quick recovery is proof of faith in a great God.

I have asked the inevitable question of why but I now think, why not. Life brings unusual events into our lives like a sudden storm, but the way the afternoon of 14th April at 3:45pm unfolded, and on reflection, was for me an amazing experience of God's practical evidence of His faithfulness.

I, again understand that Jesus gives meaning to the storms of life although sometimes the recipient may take a little time to accept it.

Almighty God always wants our friendship through relationship with Jesus. Jesus paid a huge price and surely that shows God's depth of desire. He also is passionate about relationships between us here on earth. Out of His love, which at times will cause suffering, he is changing hearts and minds towards what is most important for the life we are living until death. The relationship with each other. To love beyond measure.



For me, the time spent recovering from the event of 14th April has caused me to be confronted with my own weaknesses. My family and friends have shown me love and care. When you are so loved and are able to receive it, it is able to be given and it can be given out of gratitude to the Father. He gives everyone the opportunity to express love in so many ways.

I am grateful to the Lord for the healing power He gives to our bodies.

I'll be back soon.

Lovingly in Christ,

Margie Hall

PS: Margie has already gone back to church to serve God. Dear Lord, thank you for Your Healing.

Chinese Translation: 黎慶玲 Janet Yu



## Deacon's Sharing

何智聰 Roy Ho

Yesterday:

Living in a self-centred world, I had probably known who God is but I have not known him. I have led a life without peace. Even so, the God of love has already planted seeds deep in my heart.

Today:

The person I am today has believed in Christ for over ten years. I thank the Lord for bestowing my wife Teresa and I this blessing! Since the year 2005, the Lord has placed my family and I in Hills Christian Alliance Church, which has been a great step for me in my spiritual journey. During this time, not only that God prepared a very suitable role for me to serve in, He has also opened my eyes and allowed me to see how weak and unreliable mankind is. At the same time, I have also learnt how to carry these weaknesses, recognise them, accept them, and trust in the Lord wholeheartedly. God used his Words to teach, lead, support, and encourage

me constantly. Thus, bringing me hope and peace in all circumstances! I have also come to know what "give thanks in all circumstances" was through serving in the worship ministry and to praise my Lord in the good and bad times. Of course, it was not possible to do so every single time and because of this, I was always reminded to trust and have faith in Him!



Tomorrow:

I really have no clue as to what tomorrow will bring. But I am learning to place my future into God's hands, praying daily for faith to trust in Him and to have a heart full of humility. I also pray that He will teach me how to treasure every moment and to number my days!

Amen!

English Translation: 李佩恩 Carol Li





## Thanksgiving

"I think, in God, He is in control. Everything which happened is under His arrangement, no matter if it seems bad to us." (Auntie Winnie Yu 15th June 2012)

Home Sweet Home!! Praise God, for under His lead, I finally returned back and settled very quickly at Hills Christian Alliance Church (a church where I felt I truly belong) just last 3 months ago, after five/ six years in Hebron Chinese Alliance Church English Congregation. Throughout these five/ six years in Hebron, I am grateful that God gave me an opportunity to serve Him, in particular in morning tea to my fellow brothers and sisters (a type of Service I enjoyed and cherished every moment of) and to learn much about His Word, both through short times at the WAY (Hebron's Youth Fellowship) and Adult Bible Study (which I studied the books of James, Daniel, Nehemiah with now-retired Pastor Geoff Bennett). Outside Hebron service, just this February 24-25th 2012, I appreciated the short time spent with some of the older working brothers, Simon Chiu, Alen Lin, Fievel Tong, Felix Hui and the newly appointed pastor Dave Martin, being in fellowship together at the Katoomba Men's Convention, and learning how to work together to accomplish God's purpose.

Another thing I thank God is His blessing of friends upon me, some at a time unexpectedly, like a brother in Jonathan Brooks. Just as I was about to leave Hebron on 24 March 2012, he asked a simple question about my plans after Hebron. What touched me is, not the question itself, but it made me feel that there is someone, I never get much opportunity to talk to, still takes notice of me, and this is how our friendship gradually develops until now ; we first had long conversations on Facebook sharing, encouraging each other (he also inspired me to start this scheme called Thank40, where for 40 days you write 3 things daily that you are thankful for in our busy lives, and now we attend Exodus cell group together). Ever since I came back to Hills Christian Alliance Church English Congregation, I am so happy to reunite with some old brothers and sisters, like Sharon Kan, Jane and Kenneth Chiu, and meeting new ones, like Jonathan Li, Carmen

Ho (we get to know each other by helping each other speak Japanese to some exchange students).

But to me, the greatest achievement is maintaining a best friend since secondary school with Angel Wong. As she now juggles between finishing off her university degree and just entering into the workforce, I understand she needs continuous support and encouragement as she deals with harsh customers, colleagues and even managers. Playing the role of her best friend, I think God has put me in a position to be her sympathetic ear, listening to her every complaint, to "carry her burdens" (Galatians 6:2) through our Facebook conversations that "encourages and build one another up" (1 Thessalonians 5:11; Ephesians 4:29b).

For "it is more to give than to receive" (Acts 20: 35b), sometimes I am unaware of people's feeling because of my inborn personality to be open to sharing, in an aspect working to become an "encourager" (Romans 12:8b), not only to my best friend, but to any brothers and sisters who needs a friend to talk to, some may see "a sign of my Godliness, that fact that you're willing to help others" (Matthew Lam 2012), in that I am attempting to be "a light" for those around me (Matthew 5: 16a), from colleagues to the younger members of church. I remember a close friend, Joyce Yu (2012) once thanked me for always being ready to help her, for being like a big brother to her.

"In life, God doesn't give you the people you want... Instead HE gives you the people you need..." (Shelley M.)

However while I am willing to build others up into "butterflies", sometimes I feel myself like a "caterpillar" stuck in the middle of cocoon spiritually (Rachel L. 2012). Using that expression, which Rachel was presenting on sermon on the 17th June, I feel anxious of unable to find a spiritual parent or guardian to give me spiritual food (help me mature spiritually). This is particularly so when I was in Hebron [in particular last two years, where I was unable to attend YACELL (Hebron's Young Workers Fellowship) because of work when they had fellowship].

陳沛恆 Daryl Chan





But God shows grace upon my spiritual despair. He listens to our long discussions with Mum and our continuous prayers together lead me back to a church where I feel happy and comfortable worshipping Him (see Psalms 113). I sense this; I sense that God supplies my need to fellowship with other brothers and sisters, and according to my personality, establishes a small Bible Study (Cell) Group in Exodus. He also provides me pastoral care through Pastor Tony and Margaret Hall when I first joined. Not only they are a couple who I feel I can share some of my inner personal feelings, but they also provide very practical, helpful advice which aims to build me up.

So, God, I am much appreciate what you are giving me according to YOUR timing/ arrangement. Please teach me to be content in whatever state I am in (c.f. Philippians 4:11) I am sorry that I am sometimes too focused on what I don't have, and keep on seeking answers that only YOU know, and will provide me when the time comes. Lord, as Mary Fisher said last week, I am considered a gift from YOU to those around me; please continue to use me for your WILL be done, whether it is just being by someone's side, supporting and encouraging them (Bible verse), to actually working to serve YOU, whether it is family, at work or even a slightest opportunity to work in YOUR house. I will always be there to do YOUR work.

Chinese Translation: 黎慶玲 Janet Yu



## Cell Group Sharing –Malachi A

Time flies. It has already been more than a year since **splitting up our cell group. I could still remember the** worries, the concerns, and the sense of lost when we were preparing for our split. But for the expansion of God's family, it had to be done. It will also be blessed by God as it was done according to his will.

In our new cell group, the old and new members had to take some time in warming up to one another. With God leading us step by step, we now have a total of five families in our group. We meet twice a month and we have been stable thus far. Through the sharing of our salvation, bible studies, the application of our faith in our daily lives, meditation and the sharing our own problems, issues, dilemmas, weaknesses and gratitude, not only have we established a deeper understanding for one another, we have also witnessed God's greatness in each of us. Even though we still have many



shortcomings, God's love encouraged us to gather as one to learn how to commit, support and comfort one another as we grow together. As the leader of the cell group, I have actually gained the most out of it. In all the preparation work that I did, I have to take it in first and

then parcel it out. Just having our members participating positively and vigorously, being self-sacrificial, helping one another out, praying for one another, and living out God's love have given me the greatest encouragement of all. Thank the Lord for he always blesses us with a peace and joy that we cannot fathom when we serve him.

I hope that Malachi cell group will continue to grow day by day, becoming more like our Lord Jesus Christ, just as the bible verse of our cell group this year says: "In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5).

English Translation: 李佩恩 Carol Li





## 'Musical of Life' for HCAC 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



(opening)

Poor Relationships  
(scene1,2)

Bad luck  
(scene3)



Dead End  
(scene4)

Revive  
(scene5)

Life's Change Point  
(scene6)

Cont.



(scene7)





## HCAC 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



## Corner of Newsletter Team

The church newsletter is to provide a place for brothers and sisters to share. This is not what our weekly bulletin or church website can achieve. The continuation of newsletter is solely relied on your support. We hope to see your sharing in our next issue. All articles can be sent to [admin@hillscac.org](mailto:admin@hillscac.org) or to Ronald, Grace, Juanita, Lincoln or Simmy. Articles can be either in English or Chinese. We'll translate your articles so that your sharing can reach every member of the Church family.