



2020
VISION
St Andrew's Church
KOWLOON

St Andrew's has been blessed with a site and buildings that sit at the very heart of the growth in Kowloon. Nathan Road and the adjacent West Kowloon precinct have become an important focal point for visitors from China, and the world.



When the first St Andrew's people met in 1906, they had great vision. They could see a great future for Kowloon, and they wanted to put Jesus Christ at the heart of it. So they built a church on a dirt road, which came to be called Nathan Road.

One hundred years later St Andrew's celebrated its centenary – One Sows Another Reaps. We gave thanks for the faith and commitment of Christians in former generations at St Andrew's who planted so that we reaped the blessings. But now...**it is time for us to sow, that others may reap.**

We want to build on the heritage of our past, so that the good news of Jesus is proclaimed and lived out in the decade ahead. But to do that, we must exercise the same faith and commitment of those who came before us. It is not enough that we reap, we must also sow for future generations, so that whenever the Lord Jesus returns, St Andrew's will be found faithful, and ready for him.



A SHORT HISTORY OF SPACE AND THE NEED FOR IT



In 1904, Bishop Hoare laid the foundation stone for St Andrew's Church. This marked the culmination of years of prayer and planning: to see a congregation planted and church built in the heart of Kowloon.

But there was little money to undertake such an ambitious plan, with a small congregation of about 30 people. But with faith and vision, plans were drawn up for a church to occupy the present site, with seating for 300, a Hall and a Vicarage. In God's goodness and provision, a generous benefactor Sir Gordon Chater provided the funds to complete the project.

The records show that once the church was completed, the small congregation took upon itself the challenge of funding the ministry and finding a Vicar. In time, St Andrew's became a large and thriving church; it fulfilled the vision of those first members, and their sacrifices in faith were blessed by God.

In 1976 St Andrew's once again needed more space, and stepped out in faith and built a multi storey Christian Centre. Almost immediately ministry growth continued.

In 1983 a daughter church was planted at Clearwater Bay, and in 1991 in Shatin. Both grew successfully, but did little to alleviate the space needs of St Andrew's. Meanwhile successive expansions within the church building increased the capacity to its present 440 seats. Yet always the church filled up.

In 1996 St Andrew's sought to undertake a development at the rear of the site, and was disappointed when government planning prevented it going forward. Space for children and youth ministries, a major need in 1976, has been an ongoing need ever since.

In 2006 the Centenary celebrations posed the question, "*What is the vision of the church for the future, and can we continue to grow as God gives us opportunity?*"

In August 2011, the church added a 5th Sunday morning service - a temporary solution to alleviate the constant overflow of attendees at the 11am service.

The 2020 Vision... is, that in the next 10 years, St Andrew's Church will seek to grow in our love of Jesus, becoming more like him, and welcoming many more into his Kingdom.



What is the 2020 Vision



"That his people would learn to serve and his body would grow strong... until we are united by our faith and by our understanding of the Son of God. Then we will be mature, just as Christ is, and we will be completely like him."

Ephesians 4:12-13 (CEV)

This vision comes from Jesus himself, who said: *"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."*

Luke 4:18-19

Therefore:

- We will embrace the challenge of growth and change within ourselves and in our church life, including our structures, staffing and our service to Hong Kong.
- We will grow in our capacity to teach and instruct one another in God's word, and to grow in the knowledge of Jesus.
- We will embark on a major master plan to develop our buildings and resources for greater use and flexibility.
 - Specifically we will build the St Andrew's Life Centre at street level, with increased space for meeting together.
 - We will make provision for youth and children's ministry, small group meetings, as well as local mission and pastoral care.
 - We will also prepare a plan for the use of the Christian Centre, as we approach the time in 2018 when the present tenant leases expire.
- We will take opportunities for St Andrew's to have a greater impact in the life of Kowloon, and take up caring and mission ministries that God leads us to.

St Andrew's Church Life Centre

*Equipping our people to
love the city & build community*



- Following the Centenary celebrations in 2006, SAC sought a vision for how the church might build on the heritage of the past, and contribute to the life and health of the community of Hong Kong and especially the community of Tsim Sha Tsui. In 2010 SAC launched the St Andrew's 2020 Vision and resolved to proceed with the construction of a new set of facilities including an auditorium for 830 people, and a similar sized area used for training and small group meetings. The St Andrew's Life Centre building has commenced and, when completed, it will cater for the growing numbers attending SAC and provide physical resources both for the church as well as the community.
- In keeping with one of the core values of our church, "Love the City", we take very much to heart the health of our friends, neighbours, and fellow citizens. The health of a city is determined not only by physical living conditions, but also by the lifestyles of its inhabitants, their social and spiritual well-being and the values they subscribe to. Recent surveys indicate that Hong Kong is among the least happy places in the world, and many suffer from a happiness deficit.

- We hope to see people live healthily, physically, socially and spiritually. We want our city transformed into a "healthy city" – a city which continually regenerates and improves its physical and social environments and expands its resources to enable mutual support among its people to reach their full potential.
- SAC has always strived to impact positively on the health of the community in Tsim Sha Tsui ("TST") and beyond. Our congregations seek to love and serve those around us as an expression of our Christian faith. We now plan to build on that heritage of Christian service.





I. A Needs Assessment of the TST area.

- The starting point for SAC to impact the local community, is to identify the needs that exist, and understand what contribution can be most helpful.
- The Sheng Kung Hui (SKH), of which SAC is a member, has a long history of social and educational work in the community of Hong Kong. St Andrew's is collaborating with the SKH welfare and educational bodies to determine what existing needs they identify as important in the area, and how we may work together.
- SAC is collaborating with the HK Polytechnic University to undertake a study of the needs of the TST area with a particular focus on three areas:
 1. Families
 2. International Students (with an emphasis on Mainland students)
 3. Ethnic Minorities

II. Use of the Life Centre

- Our Life Centre will be at the centre of our resources to take bold steps to impact the TST community to a new level.
- Besides serving its purposes as part of a church, the Life Centre and all of its facilities (namely, an assembly hall that can seat 830, an amphitheatre, meeting rooms and a landscape garden) will be used as a **training centre** to promote healthy living and a **community resource and sanctuary** for our neighbours
- As a **training centre**, the Life Centre will serve as a resource for hosting activities tied to themes of healthy living. SAC will also collaborate with other organizations to offer programmes which inspire healthy living. All of these will be done with a focus on the said areas of focus within boundaries set by the SAC Council and as informed from a Christian perspective.
- As a **community resource and sanctuary**, the Life Centre will be used for social and cultural events (such as concerts, bazaars and art fairs) for people from diverse racial, ethnic, social and cultural backgrounds to meet and integrate in a safe, supportive and understanding environment, thereby facilitating harmony in our local community.



III. Areas of Focus

1. Families

Building on our past experience, SAC plans on building a “Family Support Centre”. It will not only be a gathering point for families in our community who attend our activities, but it will also be where people will attend courses and seminars and find professional counselling and pastoral support in areas of marriage and parenting. Such support will be provided by SAC on its own or in collaboration with partners whose visions and objectives SAC shares. Courses and seminars will be held on topics such as:

- Growing healthy relationships
- Preparing for marriage
- Enriching your marriage
- Getting ready for parenthood
- Parenting (toddlers, primary, teenagers)
- Communicating with children/teens (for parents)
- Communicating with parents (for children/teens)
- Dealing with failure in the family
- Divorce and singleness

2. Individuals in the Workplace

Given that the workplace forms a major part of most people’s lives, improving the quality of life at the workplace and enabling people to have opportunities to grow and develop within a workplace context can be very beneficial.

Support will be provided by SAC on its own or in collaboration with partners whose visions and objectives SAC shares.

Courses and seminars will be held on topics such as:

- Growing in self awareness
- Stress management
- Conflict management
- Personal development
- Growing a healthy mind
- Healthy living by design
- Growing through grief and loss

3. *International Students (with an emphasis on Mainland students)*

SAC first began supporting mainland Chinese students twelve years ago, and provides a wide range of classes and training, as well as social and cultural events. These include language classes, cultural training, social events and pastoral support. The 2020 Vision has encouraged us to increase our staffing for this programme, with support from a larger group of volunteers.



SAC has launched an enlarged programme of events and training, including:

- English for life classes
- English at work
- Living Cantonese
- Cross cultural communication
- Understanding western culture

As and when the West Kowloon Arts Precinct is completed, SAC will find suitable ways to support arts students and artists who visit Hong Kong for shorter periods of time.



4. *Ethnic Minorities*

SAC had historically established both asylum seeker and South Asian minorities support agencies in the past. Since then it also developed a support programme to help in training and equipping asylum seekers for future employment. The 2020 Vision has encouraged us to investigate further and identify areas of service that may be required for minority groups in Tsim Sha Tsui.

Support will be provided by SAC on its own or in collaboration with partners whose visions and objectives SAC shares.

Training courses may include:

- English for life classes
- English at work
- Cross cultural communication
- Understanding western culture
- Women and western culture
- Personal development
- Skills for life
- Living with grief and loss
- Making a fresh start

St Andrew's 2020 Vision Master Plan



- 2007-08 After sustained prayer, a floor was leased from our neighbour the Kai Fong Association for the YouthWorX Centre for an initial 3 years. This provides space for the youth ministry, mid-week meetings and additional office space.
- 2009-10 The St Andrew's Christian Centre has been refurbished, the first major work done on the building in 30 years. While rectifying a number of issues, the building has been finished in a colour scheme consistent with the heritage nature of the site, as recommended by the Antiquities and Monuments Office. As part of that work, the ground floor reception has been redecorated.
- 2011 The lease for YouthWorX was renewed for 2 years, and continued to be used as office and ministry space. A Dedication Ceremony for the Life Centre was held in November 2011, conducted by Archbishop Paul Kwong.
- 2012-13 Construction of the St Andrew's Life Centre commenced in June 2012 with a blessing ceremony conducted by the Rt Revd Andrew Chan, Bishop of the Western Kowloon Diocese.
- In 2013, the YouthWorX lease was extended for another year.

- 2014 The St Andrew's Life Centre is due to open. Its special features include:
- 830 seat auditorium with modern sound, and multimedia facilities. It will contain facilities for disabled members (access and sound), babies and parents, simultaneous translation, and live video link to the Church.
 - Lower amphitheatre, with youth and children's meeting rooms
 - Space for talking, praying, reading material, and of course refreshments and snacks
 - Mission space for community service
 - Disabled access by lift to the church grounds
 - Landscaped garden retreat - a Sunday fellowship and refreshment space
 - Street level presence, with promotional space

- 2018-20 The St Andrew's Christian Centre will provide additional space as tenants' leases expire. The 2020 Vision would be to continue to use the centre, with increased office space available, staff accommodation, and meeting space. The proposed development will form part of an overall plan to provide for the ministry needs of the church for the future.



Developing the 2020 Vision Further – 2014



The 2020 Vision programme has been put into practice over the past 3-4 years, and it is showing. St Andrew's has a competent and professional staff team, well qualified to teach, pastor, train and equip church members to be Christians who are growing more like Jesus, and sharing their faith with their family, neighbours and colleagues.

After 4 years of development it is time to review progress and see what adjustments we need to make the most of what we are doing. This means that between September 2013 and March 2014 SAC will undertake a comprehensive review of our current ministries, and consider what new initiatives we should undertake.

Staffing

There are a number of community developments, listed elsewhere in this publication that will require professional expertise that SAC does not currently have. Some existing staff will need further training, and some staff will need assistance to develop their work further.

Given the present size of the staff team, and the salary budget in the overall church budget, the Vicar and Church Council believe that we cannot expand the staff team further at this stage, and at present we must if anything have the flexibility to reduce the budget if circumstances demand it. The Vicar and Council have agreed that

it should do some restructuring of the staff team which may involve not replacing staff vacancies as they occur, not renewing some staff contracts as they expire, and cutting short some others.

This does not mean that SAC is going backwards in our 2020 Vision staffing, but it does mean that we are being prudent in the short term, and having some flexibility in the medium term to adjust ministry duties to ensure we can maximise the ministry for the team for the benefit of the church.

Using the Life Centre

SAC will be developing a usage plan for the immediate future for the Life Centre, Christian Centre, and Old Vicarage and Church very soon. It will be open for discussion and feedback.

A current draft working proposal for discussion is the church services on Sunday. This is essentially unchanged from what we have at present, except for location:

* Church	8:30 am	Early Morning Church
* Life Centre	9:45 am	Mid Morning Church
* Church	10:30 am	Putonghua Church
* Life Centre	11:30 am	Late Morning Church
* Church	5:00 pm	Evening Church

Mid week meetings will also be planned as part of the overall proposal and available for feedback.



YouthWorX

The current lease for the 6th floor of the neighbouring Kai Fong building will expire next March, and we are not confident of its renewal. In any case, as soon as the Life Centre is available we do not really need the space for Youth, but it has a considerable staff office space that we still urgently need.

The Life Centre has never been a solution for the lack of office space for staff, and we have always known that YouthWorX offered a solution only for the short to medium term. But without YouthWorX, the majority of staff have nowhere to go. We have been awaiting the time when the current tenants' leases expire in Dec 2018, for that is when we will have sufficient space available.

In the meantime Council is considering, as it did before YouthWorX was available, what leasing options are available for office space until 2019.

The Church

With the Life Centre open the church will get some much deserved redecoration, and some repairs. Its sound system is quite deficient and repairs have been put off in 2013. Some chairs will be taken out to improve the space, and generally we will be able to allow this heritage building a little more grace and style.

The Old Vicarage

With the Life Centre in use, the pressure on the Old Vicarage will be lessened. Many mid week groups will opt to use the Life Centre meeting rooms, and SAC will have some flexibility to use the Old Vicarage for uses related to our community outreach. What redecoration or modifications we do will be dependant on future use, and there will be time for feedback in due course.

The Old Amah's Quarters are presently used as office space, and not many will recall that when they were renovated in 2005 it was with funds given for a St Andrew's Pastoral Centre. In 2014 we hope, God willing, that with office space elsewhere at last, the pastoral centre can be restored for its original use.

The Verger's Cottage (behind the Christian Centre) is also due for some attention. Exactly what we are not sure, because truthfully no one has had the energy or time to devote to what we should do. But that doesn't mean there are no ideas, and enthusiasm to see it done properly – whatever that means. But 2014 will be the year when we turn our attention to it, and your feedback will be welcome.

How will the Life Centre be funded



How will the Life Centre be funded?

The budget of the building the Life Centre is \$180 million. Since the 2020 Vision campaign was launched at the end of 2009, we have raised 56% of the total (HK\$101 million), with a balance of \$79 million to be raised.

With only \$5.1 million cash in hand, our present funds will be exhausted by mid-june 2014 to pay for the contracted expenditure.

Where will the rest of the money come from? It can only come from people who support the Vision. The 2020 Vision Fundraising Committee is coordinating all fundraising activities and will continue to seek additional pledges or donations from within and outside the church. St Andrew's will be seeking "bridging loans" as support until the outstanding funds are raised. Other fundraising activity will continue, such as the Facilities Gifting programme, the Triathlon, St Andrew's merchandise and other events.

But the most important strategy will be to pray. There is no funding that will come from official Anglican sources, nor does St Andrew's have any secret reserves. So, the funds will have to come from those people who value the vision that we have, and want to support the project.

So how can you help?

1. By praying;
2. By considering to give sacrificially to the church at this time of need, as you are able;
3. By asking, seeking and knocking on doors.

St Andrew's 2020 Vision – In whose hands?

"Whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ... Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness."

1 Corinthians 9:6, 10

St Andrew's Church has been blessed in abundance; with land, buildings, and people. But God is calling us to keep walking forward in obedience into the future he has for us; not just our future, but the future of many who rely upon us now, and who will thank God for our service in the years to come.

Your Response

Do you have any questions or feedback? We would like to hear from you. Send your comments to 2020vision@standrews.org.hk. Please also check out the church website for Frequently Asked Questions, ways to donate and other information about the 2020 Vision.

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