



In preparation for 2015, SAC is presently working on an update to the 2020 Vision which will be completed by mid October for publication and comment. It has been 5 years since the initial Vision was drafted, and as 2015 is half way through the lifespan of the present vision, it seems a good time to revisit it and make any fine-tuning we think necessary. More importantly, in 2015 we can move from what has been a major resourcing phase to more active outreach phase. More information soon.

NEW MINISTER JOINS SAC

I am pleased to announce that the Reverend Sok Han Yong will join St Andrew's, hopefully in December 2014, as Associate Minister and Chinese Ministry Director.

Sok Han is married to Kim Kee Lee, and has 2 adult children. She trained in West Malaysia, Cambridge and Oxford, and works presently as an assistant minister at St Helen's Church, Abingdon-On-Thames England.

Sok Han and Kim Kee have been engaged in Chinese mission and ministry since the mid 1980s and have extensive experience in creative mission in Europe, Asia and

China. Sok Han has a wealth of pastoral experience, and will be a wonderful addition to our staff team. We are presently preparing her visa application and hope to see her arrive with Kim Kee before Christmas.

I have always said that finding Chinese Anglican clergy who are multi-lingual and will work in Hong Kong is almost impossible given the huge demand for such people world wide. God has been good to SAC in allowing us to find such a person, and I am especially pleased that we have a clergy-woman joining us. Depending on your church background, some may find this unusual, and I have explained a little more about our staffing policy online. Please check the website at www.standrews.org.hk/women-and-ministry

Appointment of PTH pastoral staff member

While we rejoice at Sok Han's appointment, please pray for the arrival of a visa for Sophie Guo. Sophie has worked as an intern for 2 years while studying Theology at Chung Chi College, Chinese University. Now that she has graduated we have appointed her to our PTH team (following Rebekah Chen's departure last year). The visa is not a straightforward matter and we ask for your prayers.

STAFF VACANCIES

We are still searching for a children's pastoral worker to join the Family Ministry team; more info on the website. Our communications Officer Alvin Fung is getting married in November and will sadly return to Canada after that. We are very sorry to see Alvin go, but congratulate him on his forthcoming marriage to Hoi Yee Wong.

But now we have to replace him – which will be hard. But we will place an advertisement online next week. Please let people know.

We are also advertising for a caretaker, following a sudden vacancy.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Progress on the Life Centre has been slower than expected, in part because of two major challenges.

Following on from more stringent foundation requirements from the Buildings Department, the removal of very heavy steel reinforcement posts has become a major headache for Ching Lee Engineering. The floors and walls have been poured around these posts, and only once the concrete has cured can they be cut out. Most have gone, but the remains of three huge king posts going through the floor of the basement are still leaking water, and causing a delay to work there.

The second challenge is connecting our drainage to the main drain pipe buried under the median fence on Nathan Road. You may recall that a previous attempt failed when a main water pipe was “discovered” that halted work for 6 months or more. Work has now re-started and we must all pray that no more “discoveries” are made under the fast lane of Nathan Road.

The following completion dates have been agreed for various projects we have ongoing:

- Slow Lane drainage work completed – 30/10/14
- Fast lane drainage work completed – 15/12/14

- Nathan Road frontage completed – 30/11/14
- Roof Garden will be completed by 5/12/14
- Driveway around church – underground work finished by November, 2014
- Occupation permit completed by 31/12/14
- Driveway around church paved and completed - 15/2/15

- Life Centre completed – 15/2/15 God willing.

This timetable does not allow for any unexpected surprises to occur, or delays to payment schedules either. But it is exciting to see a date for completion that is very near, and we can expect Council to agree on a tentative opening date very soon.

OTHER WORKS

The 2nd floor Church Office work is underway and should be completed by the end of October. We expect then to move out of YouthWorX in the Kai Fong Building next door. We also expect to renovate the ground floor office and turn it back into a large meeting room and smaller rooms, just like when Juliana, Dale and I first worked together in the mid 1980s. The more things change the more they stay the same! We hope to be able to offer adults classes on Sundays when this is finished. Also the Pastoral Centre will be emptied of staff desks and be open to be used for its intended purpose.

