

# Fountain of Hope



Chung-dong First Methodist Church, English Ministry—January 2018

## A GOD SIZED GOAL FOR 2018

*“Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” NIV*

The famous English sculptor Henry Moore was asked a fascinating question by literary critic Donald Hall. “Now that you are eighty, you must know the secret of life. What is it?” Moore paused ever so slightly, with just enough time to smile before answering. “The secret of life,” he mused, “is to have a task, something you do your entire life, something you bring everything to, every minute of the day for your whole life. And the most important thing is: It must be something you cannot possibly do.”

I like this! Moore recognized that the secret of life is pursuing a task that you can’t possibly pull off. Unfortunately, as Christians, we can find ourselves lulled into complacency because we don’t stretch ourselves to achieve God-sized goals. Stop for just a moment and ask yourself: “Am I currently doing anything that requires divine intervention?” If the truth be known, most of us would do just fine without God’s enablement. All the tasks that we do on a daily basis don’t seem to require His assistance. Of course, I would suggest that this is precisely the problem! We may not have God-sized goals. It is even possible that we may not have God’s goals at all.

In Philippians 3:12–21, Paul imparts the secret of life. He is going to call you and me to an impossible task that can only be pulled off by God. This great task is pursuing intimacy with Jesus Christ, which leads to significance, purpose, and joy in this life and in the life to come. Thus, Paul urges you to set your earthly goals on heavenly gains. Unfortunately, it is all too easy to become so preoccupied with the tyranny of the urgent that we miss what is most important. It’s so easy to become victims of the loudest or latest commands. Everyone has a plan for your life. But you have to decide what matters most. May we hear boldly the calling of God for the new year and trust God to pull off what He has called us to.

<https://bible.org/seriespage/10-god-s-goals-philippians-312-21>



*By water and the Spirit*

**Baptismal Renewal Service**  
**Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**1:30 – Main Auditorium**

Chungdong Academy for Theological and Spiritual Formation (CATS) presents

### Special Open Lecture

*“Christian Leadership and Global Economic Prospects: The Challenges for Korea”*



**Speaker:**  
**Dr. Kwang-Woo Jeon**

*He is currently a distinguished professor at Yonsei University Graduate School of Economics; served in 2009–2013 as chairman and chief executive officer of the [National Pension Service \(NPS\)](#) of Korea, and during 2008/2009 as founding Chairman of [Financial Services Commission \(FSC\)](#), the cabinet post in charge of financial policy and supervision.*

*Dr. Jeon played a leading role in successfully coping with the global financial crisis erupted in 2008. He is also the author of numerous articles and books, including *Beyond the Crisis* (2010). He has been featured in interviews or columns appearing in *The Financial Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Economist*, *Bloomberg*, *CNBC*, among others, and has been a frequent invited speaker at international conferences.*

**Sunday,**  
**January 14, 2018 – 2:45**  
**Music Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor,**  
**Yewon School**

*Our passion is God.  
Our motivation the love of Jesus Christ.  
Our power is through the Holy Spirit. Our mission is the world.*



# News Bits



## CATS

One of the highlights of the new year is the commencement of the Chungdong Academy for Theological and Spiritual Formation (CATS). God has blessed EM with a wealth of people who are specialists and leaders in various fields such as theology, economy, medical science, psychology and much more.

God has also entrusted to EM a unique blend of people: theological students who are training to go into the ministry; internationals who journey with EM for a brief period and then go back to their home countries or other places in the world, and long-term members who are journeying with EM. For theological candidates, CATS will provide hands-on leadership formation through a mentorship program. For internationals and long-standing members and friends, CATS would like to equip them with leadership skills through a systematic program of spiritual and theological formation. This way we will be able to strengthen and equip our lay leaders, who are the backbone of the ministry, and in the case of internationals who will leave Korea for other parts of the world, send out strong global leaders who can make a difference in the world. The focus of CATS is mainly on leadership and spiritual formation. Thus, CATS is at its core a discipleship program of spiritual formation.

The first session of CATS is on Friday, January 26 at 7 pm to 9 pm on the 5th floor of the Paichai Chungdong Bldg. Rev. Hea Sun Kim will give a special lecture on Conversation Methods. If you're interested in attending, please contact Hye-Eun Chon, our Intern Pastor.



EM Pastors and Mrs. Park

## JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

### Preaching Schedule

(1:30 pm)

- Jan 7: Prof. Nangsoon Kang
- Jan 14: Rev. Sehyoung Lee
- Jan 21: Rev. Johan Reiners
- Jan 28: Rev. J Sehyoung Lee

### Baptismal Renewal Service – 14 January at 1:30

### Special Open Lecture

“Christian Leadership and Global Economic Prospects: The Challenges for Korea”

**Dr. Kwang-Woo Jeon**

**14 January at 2:45 – Music Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Yewon School**

### Winter VBS

Winter Vacation Bible School for elementary school students.

13 and 20 Jan

Details will be provided.

## Looking back on December

### Christmas Eve Service

One of the most important dates on the EM calendar is the traditional Christmas Eve Service. On Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm Chungdong EM members and friends gathered for a blessed service filled with music by Shalom Trio and Choir, baptism, Holy Communion and the liturgy of the Word. Scripture passages were read in English, Afrikaans, Korean, Russian and Indonesian.



Shalom Choir – Christmas Eve

### Hakki Min

2018 is an important year for Hakki Min who served Chungdong EM for the past few years as pastoral assistant. Not only will he leave for the USA to continue his theological studies at the Claremont School of Theology, but he will also tie the knot on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Our prayers go with Hakki and his wife on their new journey.



### Baptism

It was a great day for Jisoo and Kristina and their family when Eugene got baptized during EM's Christmas Eve service.



Baptism – Eugene Park



Scripture Readers – Christmas Eve

**English Ministry**  
**Contemporary Worship**  
Sundays at 10:30

**Young Adult's Fellowship**  
– Sundays at 11:30

**Lay Leader:**  
Elder Kyung Eun Kim

**Intern Pastor**  
Hye-Eun Chon

**Staff Assistants**  
In Young Cho  
Yeram Josua Kim  
Won Yeoung Lee

[chungdongem@gmail.com](mailto:chungdongem@gmail.com)  
[www.chungdongem.com](http://www.chungdongem.com)

**Vibrant Traditional**  
**Worship**  
Sundays at 1:30

**Youth Fellowship**  
Sundays at 1:00

**Pastors**  
Rev. Se Hyoung Lee  
Rev. Hea Sun Kim  
Rev. Chong-ah S. Kim  
Rev. Johan Reiners

**Pastoral Assistant**  
Hangyoon Cho

Please “like” our Facebook page: Chungdong Fmc EM

**Kid's Worship**  
Sundays at 1:30