

Fountain of Hope



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

The Church I See

I recently read the book *Crossing Over* by Paul Scanlon in which he tells of the series of transitions his church in Bradford, England went through to become one of the fastest growing churches in the UK today. He tells:

“Our church was twenty-five years old, was quite set in its ways, and had a culture that was introverted, safe, and exclusive... I remember so clearly God asking me, “What kind of church don’t you want?” That was an easier question for me to answer than, “What kind of church do I want?” His question helped me to look closely at what I didn’t like about our church, and the things I didn’t like soon became a small but radical list of things I knew would not easily die.”

He then moves on and lists his observations while visiting churches all over Britain and abroad. He mentions the habit of churches to start late and the tardiness of the people. His commitment was to build a church where services are so dynamic that no one will miss a moment. He also observes that most churches he visited had passionless worship – worship which has been reduced to the few songs dutifully sung prior to the preaching – all on autopilot. His commitment was to build a worshipping church, whose God-filled worship will be awesome and life-changing. A further observation was that people were generally nonresponsive and “dead,” especially during the preached Word. This he interpreted as that people are not excited about church. They are attending church instead of being the church. His commitment: “I will build a church that is exciting to be in.”

After a comprehensive list of observations he faced in the church, his life’s work was slowly unfolding before him. This found its way into his “The Church I See” statements wherein he sets out to cast a vision for the kind of church he believes God wants him to build. “THE CHURCH I SEE is God-centered, purpose-driven, and people-empowering. THE CHURCH I SEE is attractive, confident, victorious, and overcoming. It is a church whose powerful proclamation and awesome worship are broadcast to the nations by every modern means possible. THE CHURCH I SEE equips, enables, and releases ordinary people to live extraordinary lives. THE CHURCH I SEE is a deeply committed, loving, caring family amongst whom the lonely and the broken find new hope and belonging.”

As we are celebrating the 21st anniversary of Chungdong EM, I was wondering about the next 21 years. Maybe we should contemplate about what kind of church we don’t want? Describe it in all its breathtaking ugliness; see it from the unchurched point of view; understand how utterly resistible it is to a lost world. And then, let us paint a new picture with the new colors of the church you see. Finally, give ourselves to building that amazing, irresistible church against which the gates of hell cannot possibly prevail.

Article by Rev. Johan Reiners

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



CATS June Lecture

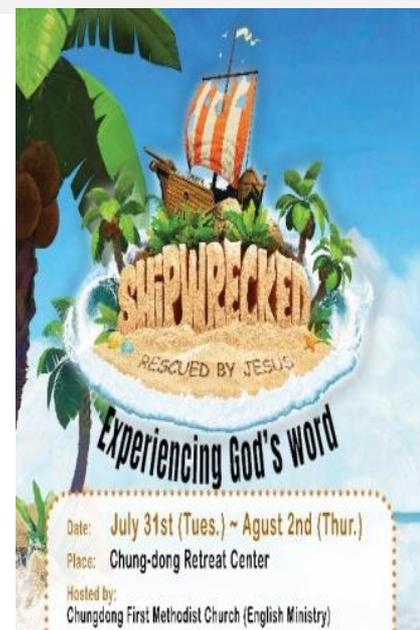


“Leadership from Deep Within”

Rev. Hea Sun Kim

June 22nd, 7pm

*PaiChai Building –
5th Floor*



Date: July 31st (Tues.) ~ August 2nd (Thur.)
Place: Chung-dong Retreat Center
Hosted by:
Chungdong First Methodist Church (English Ministry)

News Bits

June Highlights

Cultural Trip – June 2nd

The June 2nd cultural excursion will lead us to Gongju City, the previous capital of the Baekje Kingdom during the three kingdoms period. At the Pansori museum we will be introduced to the art of pansori during a special lecture-performance. Please mark your calendars for the 2nd of June.

EM's 21st Anniversary

The English Ministry will celebrate its 21st anniversary on June 3rd.

Ewha Girl's Foreign Language High School Chapel Service

On June 26th EM will lead the Chapel Service at the school. Rev. Johan Reiners will deliver the sermon while the EM team will lead worship.

EM Summer VBS

The EM team is currently preparing for the annual Summer VBS. It will take place between July 31 (Tues) and August 2 (Thur) at Chungdong Retreat Center. The theme for this year is "Experiencing God's Word"

We ask for your prayers and support as teachers for the VBS.



Yeram Kim with the Youth Fellowship

June Preaching Schedule

(1:30 pm)

June 1: Rev. Se-Hyoung Lee

June 10: Rev. Johan Reiners

June 17: TBA

June 24: Rev. Sandra Chong-Ah Kim

The Wedding



Chungdong EM with family and friends gathered for the wedding of Jae and Lia earlier this month. Congratulations to our newly weds. We wish them happiness and blessings!

May Highlights

CDEM Teacher's Conference



Dr. Miri Woo, an expert on Christian Education, was the guest speaker at the CDEM Teacher's Conference at the Methodist Theological University on June 24th. She spoke on "The Courage to Teach" and encouraged the teachers for the coming Vacation Bible School in August, 2018.



Kids' Club with Hangyoon Cho

English Ministry
Contemporary Worship
Sundays at 10:30

Young Adult's Fellowship
– Sundays at 11:30

Vibrant Traditional
Worship
Sundays at 1:30

Youth Fellowship
Sundays at 1:00

Kid's Worship
Sundays at 1:30

Lay Leader:
Elder Jungsik Oh
Pastors
Rev. Se Hyoung Lee
Rev. Hea Sun Kim
Rev. Chong-ah S. Kim
Rev. Johan Reiners

Pastoral Assistant
Hangyoon Cho

Staff Assistants
In Young Cho
Yeram Josua Kim
Won Yeoung Lee

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