

December 2024 Elder Update

Greetings Everyone,

Thanks to the Ladies Council and everyone who was a part of the Thanksgiving dinner. The food was awesome, and you will not find better desserts! Thanks also goes out to the volunteers who set up, served, cleaned up, and put away all the tables and chairs. Dinners cannot happen without everyone working together. You don't need to be a cook to make the Church dinners a success.

Thanks also goes out to everyone who has been a part of the year-end activities such as the budget committee and the nominating committee. Thank you to all the youth and Awana volunteers. Thank you to all the men who have been a part of the Saturday workdays. Please continue to volunteer for the upcoming events in 2025.

The yearly business meeting will be held on December 15 right after the church service. Items on the agenda include:

The nominating committee's recommendations for Deacons and approval by the Church.

The review and approval of the proposed 2025 budget.

The Mission Committee, the Ladies Council, and the Cemetery Committee will provide an end of year report.

Building Updates

- Bids for the storm windows have been higher than anticipated. The Elders are awaiting a third bid before a decision will be made on next steps.
- The sheetrock repair in the women's fellowship hall bathroom is being scheduled.

Hardening the Church Initiatives

The Elders have completed the following to harden the Church building with the goal to make the Church as weather and disaster proof as possible.

- Manny the Tree Guy removed the sweet gum tree next to the ADA ramp and trimmed the trees adjacent to the breezeway. The removal of the tree next to the ADA ramp really opened up the front of the Church, so it is highly visible from the road. (The new siding really looks great!)
- The Elders have inventoried the smoke/carbon monoxide detectors, fire extinguishers, and AEDs. The next step will be to install the proper number of smoke/carbon monoxide detectors.
- The Elders are also researching the best approach in monitoring equipment for water and fire detection equipment, so if something happens it can be quickly identified and contained before it becomes a major event. If you have experience with these types of systems, please contact one of Elders and share your experience.

Upcoming Events

The year-end business meeting will be held on December 15 immediately following the service.

Christmas Eve service is from 5 to 6 pm. (Communion will be served during the service.)

Meet your Deacons dinner will begin in January.

Please pray that Christ will be a part of everyone's Christmas and for us to share our faith. Pray for our country, our community, and the Church family.

The Elders wish each and every one of you a blessed Christmas.

In Christ's Love,

The Elders



December Events:

December 7th:
Men's Prayer
Breakfast 8 am

December 15th:
Annual Business
Meeting

December 19th:
Ladies Council
Meeting 10 am

December 24th:
Christmas Eve
Service with
Communion 5-6
pm

Every Tuesday:
Ladies Bible
Study 10 am
Ladies Quilting
1 pm

**Every
Wednesday:**
AWANA 6:30-
8:00 pm

**Every Sunday
Night:**
Youth Group
6:30-8:00 pm



Curtis and Mei Lin Jones

Hong Kong is referred to as an “Administrative Region” of China. Britain gained control of the island and controlled the region from 1842 until 1984 when Britain and China agreed to turn the island over to China under a “one-country, two-system” solution which would allow Hong Kong economic independence for 50 years.

Because of its geographic location, many people have fled to the island nation because of Islamic extremism or as illegal immigrants (squatters). Hong Kong, while quite wealthy (one of the top three business centers of the world), and a population of 7.4 million, is quite diverse culturally and there is a huge division between the wealthy and the impoverished.

And that is where Curtis and Mei Lin come in and their ministry. Their primary function is to help the impoverished. They utilize the House of Prayer as a bridge to the gospel. Mei Lin has written three tracts that she is able to share with many in the Chinese language. 23-24% of the population is impoverished, so the opportunities are plenty and prison ministries have opened up for the Jones because so many coming to the island illegally are thrown into prison.

In addition, the ministry has expanded to neighboring Mongolia, also a poor nation with about 40% of the people living as nomadic herders. Many of the people live in what is called a yurt, round tents in which they call home. Curtis reports that their ministry is also building geothermal green house attachments to help with poor health and diet conditions there.



**“The task ahead of you
is never as great as the
POWER behind you!”**



November Financial

Corner:

We were over budget on
Expenses for November.

We were under budget on
Giving for November.

Youth Group

We have been going over The Case for Christ. It is a 6 week study. We watch a short video then go over it and answer any questions.

We had our Thanksgiving Dinner on November 24th. Thank you to those that donated money or desserts for it!

We will have our Christmas Party December 22nd with food, a White Elephant gift exchange, and the Christmas

Story.