

# CHOPSTICKS 筷語

Winter 2015 冬誌

Spring 2016 春訊

合併號

## Loma Linda Chinese SDA Church

25665 Van Leuven Street, Loma Linda, CA 92354

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<http://www.llc.adventistfaith.org>

Senior Pastor: Matthew Yuen

Associate Pastor: Kazar Ackerman

### Our Vision Statement

United in Christ's Love,

**We Reach Up** to God

**Reach Out** to the communities  
and the world

**Reach Across** to touch the lives  
of others

Advisor: Matthew Yuen

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Shirley Yen, Rachel Wong

We regret that due to space limitations, your information may have been shortened. However, we made every effort to include all pertinent information from your submission.

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## LEADERSHIP in-house RETREAT



Kazar Ackerman



Our church conducted an in-house Leadership Retreat on **January 3, 2016** in the Fellowship Hall. We invited all church appointed leaders from all departments to join together as one in

order to uplift and encourage each other as we began the new year of leaders for Loma Linda Chinese Church 2016. Our focus was to empower our leaders to be more organized, but more importantly, build relationships.

We accomplished this by breaking up into small groups following short seminar sessions by the pastors and elders of the church, and sharing with one another personal tidbits such as place of birth, favorite foods, and future endeavors. It was a great experience learning something different about someone else, and as a result, getting to know them a little bit better than before.

A wonderful lunch was provided for all to sit and continue conversations, opportunities to pray with one another allowed for intimate time alone with God, and a great environment and fellowship was evident throughout the day. We plan on another retreat in the near future and hope and pray that this one will sprout a much greater need for camaraderie and uniformity and a willingness to bond closer to one another.

## Community Service

Dale Vasantachart



The Loma Linda Academy held a health fair on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Our Community Services Department sponsored over three hundred sack lunches for the workers of this event. Our church members gathered in the fellowship hall at 8 in the morning to assemble and deliver these sack lunches to the site in San Bernardino. Even though there were some bumps along the way, praise God we were able to complete our task in a timely manner!



## *Outreach Ministry*

Joselito Coo

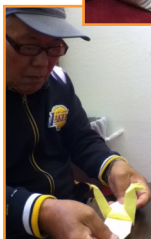
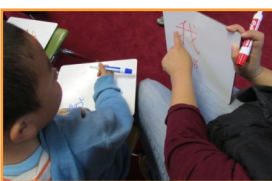
### Reading Bible 101

The English Bible Reading class is an extension of the English Conversation class, and it is held every Sabbath afternoon. Its goal is to help Chinese-speaking students learn English through reading the Bible, while getting in touch with the Word of God. May God's message continue to touch the souls of these students.



### Chinese Language Arts Camp

This is a new class for this year. Its goal is to introduce Chinese culture to the Chinese children in our community. The activities include learning Chinese words through pin-yin method, Chinese calligraphy and painting, geography, folk dance, and crafts.





## My Testimony

Enlin Jiang

My name is Enlin Jiang. I was born in a Christian family in Shanghai. My father is a pastor at the Seventh-day Adventist Reform Movement church. At the age of 16, I went on to study at San Yu Adventist School in Singapore. Pastor Matthew Yuen, whom I never met before, helped me register at the school and find a place to stay, and brought me to the SDA church. Our family later migrated to the US, where I finished my college and doctoral studies. I now work as a lawyer in Hong Kong.

I am turning 27. The reason I have not been baptized is not that I still have reservation concerning my beliefs. I never doubted God's existence and the SDA message. Rather, because my dad has been a prominent figure in my religious growth, I shied away from making a final decision with respect to my family's beliefs, even though I started attending the SDA church ten years ago. My struggle ensued, and partly due to the temptations of the world and burdens of studies, I barely took a moment to consider my choice and gradually lost my faith.



January 16, 2016



To my surprise, in those days when I was drifting, God was never far away. I seldom prayed, but God answered each time I did. Two years ago when I was having trouble finding a summer internship, I prayed. That year I received only one offer, which was from a US law firm in Singapore, meaning I got to revisit our church there. After graduation I was assigned to a Shanghai office. I felt discouraged because of the low pay and mediocre career prospect. I prayed again. A few days later, when I was assisting our Hong Kong office on a project, the boss there asked if I was willing to relocate. More amazingly, I found that we had a partner there who also came from the Singapore Chinese SDA Church.

In the US, before becoming a lawyer, a candidate must take an oath to vindicate the Constitution and follow the rules of ethics. I am scheduled to swear in at a New York court on January 21, 2016. The moment I was notified of this, I made up my mind to be baptized. I need to accept God's standards, for God's law never compromises to human desires and sins. His law book, which has survived thousands of years, remains relevant even today.

I am appreciative to my father for bringing me into a Christian family and providing the best childhood education. I give thanks to Pastor Yuen for his generosity in helping me settle well in Singapore and taking me to an SDA church and for the Loma Linda Chinese SDA Church for accepting me. I am most grateful to my Father in heaven, who keeps me from falling while I am weak and makes me find the path while confused and grasp my faith in a world full of temptations.



# "Giving Thanks" Christmas Worship

December 19, 2015

*On this day, our church celebrated Christmas with a "giving thanks" theme. Through music we gave thanks to the triune God who sacrificed His life to save us sinners. What enormous grace He bestowed upon us!*



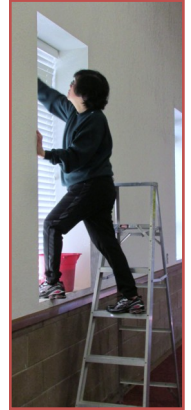
## Church Deep Cleaning

As the Lunar New Year approached, the church held a deep cleaning activity on January 24th. The participants brought their cleaning tools and supplies. The whole church, from the main sanctuary to the fellowship hall, the classrooms, the kitchens, and the bathrooms got a top to bottom makeover. Afterwards, there was a delicious potluck with plenty of socializing.

We thank everyone for his/her hard work! May God bless all those hands that labored for His temple.



We would like to thank Yolanda Chai for creating the background and props.



# Chinese New Year Celebration

February 13, 2016

This year's Lunar New Year Festival focused more on allowing our church family to celebrate and socialize together in a safe environment. Therefore, to give the deaconesses a break from having kitchen duty during the celebration, the Social Committee elected to have a buffet style sit-down dinner. Also, to stay compliant with the city of Loma Linda's Fire Department maximum occupancy code restriction and for everyone's safety, the fellowship hall had limited seating of 25 tables with a charge of ten dollars per person. The students were allowed to attend free of charge. The money earned from ticket sales enabled us to cover the cost of the food and any excess in sales would be put into the potluck fund for the rest of the year.

As for the program, the Young Adults started the night with a short worship in songs. Pastor Yuen gave a short devotion titled, "Forgetting the past, reach toward the goal." Then a group of four Korean sisters offered special music to close the Sabbath.

Masters of Ceremony Bernard Yap and translator Shirley Yen welcomed the attendees, made some house-keeping announcements, offered grace and kicked off the evening of festivities. There were tables lined with sumptuous and delectable foods, and each table was ushered to the food line. Everyone had plenty of opportunity to mingle and catch up with friends.

At 8 o'clock, the drum and gong sounded and the lion dance stirred up excitement in the atmosphere. Shirley Slater sang and danced in welcoming the new year, and she also led a lantern riddle game. As usual, Pastor Yuen led out his Tai-Chi group which is always a favorite to all. Cecilia Cruz sang a classic Filipino love song. The Chi-Fu choir also offered their annual spiritually inspiring song. Mr. and Mrs. Ching-Chung Shum handed out red packages to all the children. The Social Committee director, Elder Larry Wong handed out prizes from raffle tickets and gave closing remarks. Lastly, Pastor Kazar closed the evening with prayer and a blessing.

The church thanks all those that participated in all aspects of the program. May the good Lord bless us with prosperity in the year of the monkey!

