



CAMBRIDGE STM 2024 REFLECTIONS

Team Leader's Report - Cynthia So

The ensuing report serves as a précis of the short-term missions team's work in Cambridge, UK this year and contains information on actual events and facts.

This is the first time that a TJCAC team went to Cambridge, UK. Our team comprised of the following members: Cynthia So (Team Lead), David Wong (Assistant Team Lead), Pastor Ken Cheng (Spiritual Lead), Belinda Cheng, Lucy C, Pia Liu, Christa Mo, Emily Shiu, and Peter So. The team's ministry focus is mainly on Cambridge Alliance, UK. The team also visited Bishop's Stortford, a newly established gospel station, approximately an hour's drive from Cambridge. We arrived at London Heathrow Airport on the morning of August 23rd, traveled to Cambridge by coach and arrived in the late afternoon. On August 24th, we traveled to Bishop's Stortford where we attended a weekly gathering of Hong Kong families where Pastor Ken Cheng conducted a parenting workshop. We then traveled back to Cambridge in the afternoon and stayed there until September 3rd.

I. STM Preparation Work

a. Training

After an information session on February 25th, team members met for the first time on May 12th for an introduction of one another and to lay the groundwork for the training of the STM team. Over the course of the next three months, a series of training sessions were scheduled for the team members. These training included topics such as *"Whatever It Takes!", "How" is more important than "What", "Preparing Your Heart", "The Teamwork Factor", "How to Prepare Your Personal Testimony", and "United Kingdom (UK) and Christianity-then and now"*. Training was also provided on how to use evangelistic tools such as *"The Wordless Book" (aka the Five-Color Gospel)*. During each team meeting, the team leader provided updates on the itinerary as well as information on our impending work in the UK.

b. Meetings & VBS Prep Work

Team members had meetings on Sunday afternoons for an average of twice a month for the months of May, June and July, and weekly in August for team building and training. Each session included training, a brief update from the team leader as well as group prayer. During the month of August, the team met every Sunday afternoon for final VBS prep work. It was imperative for the team to meet regularly for team building and for prayer so that any issues can be ironed out before embarking on the STM trip. This way, team members can get to know one another before working with the larger group at Cambridge Alliance.

c. Prayer

The team spent time in prayer within every training session. Specific prayer requests from team members were circulated in the beginning of August within the church for prayer support. A prayer newsletter (Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese & English versions) including the team photo, individual and general prayer items was prepared and circulated on Commissioning Sunday, August 18th. The team was commissioned in all four services (English, Mandarin, Young Life & Cantonese). An online Google form was made available within TJCAC, which enabled brothers and sisters to sign up for STM prayer updates during the trip. Those who signed up for

prayer support for STM received regular email updates from the team leader during the team's trip in the UK. Team members were also encouraged to enlist their own prayer support for the STM.

II. Scope of Work in Cambridge

The Team consisted of nine members from TJCAC but also worked with a few local sisters for VBS. The planning process included the recruitment and interviews of team members, booking plane tickets, ministry job allocations, name tags, handbook preparation, transportation arrangements, as well as liaising with the pastors and coordinators in Cambridge for all program logistics. The team worked mainly with Rev. Rosa Chan and Elder Edward Kwong (husband and wife) of the Cambridge Alliance Church, who have been missionaries there for the past 27 years. Cambridge Alliance Church meets at St. James Church on Sunday afternoons. Mandarin worship is from 12:30-1:45pm, followed by Sunday School; and Cantonese worship is from 2:30-3:45pm, followed by small groups. Youth worship runs concurrently with Cantonese worship, is conducted in Cantonese and attended by approximately 50 youths.

The team stayed at the Cambridge Campus Ministry Centre, a three-storey rowhouse, where we had group devotions in the morning, debriefing in the evenings as well as cooking our own meals.

a. Vacation Bible School

There were 16 children who registered for VBS. The program ran for four days from 9:30am to 3:30pm from August 26th to 29th. A typical VBS day included opening assembly, (Song Worship, Skits, Directions), Bible lesson, crafts, memory verse, story time, games, and performance prep. On the last day of the program, a graduation ceremony was held in which the children performed for their parents and certificates were presented for completion of the VBS. Lucy was the VBS Coordinator, working closely with Christa Mo, who were both instrumental in planning the lesson plan, the crafts, the games, and the VBS schedule. The theme for VBS was "Hidden Treasures", using parables to teach bible lessons. Children were divided into three groups: Group 1: Reception - Year 2; Group 2: Years 3-4; and Group 3: Years 5-6. The VBS teachers for these groups were Peter So and Pia Liu; Belinda Cheng and Emily Shiu; and David Wong and Chista Mo., respectively. On the last day of VBS, the teachers presented the gospel to the children using The Wordless Book and 10 children accepted Christ.

b. Parenting Workshop

Pastor Ken Cheng conducted the parenting workshop 「青春不是突然就叛逆」 three different times: in Bishop's Stortford for the Hong Kong families; at a deaconess' house for the Mandarin-speaking couples; and after the Cantonese worship at Cambridge Alliance.

c. Preaching

Pastor Ken Cheng preached twice during the first Sunday in Cambridge, once in Mandarin and once in Cantonese. He also assisted in officiating the Holy Communion.

d. Personal Testimonies

Two of the team members: Lucy and Cynthia shared their personal testimonies in the

Mandarin worship and the Cantonese worship, respectively. On the same day, Pastor Ken Cheng also presented a summary of our work in Cambridge to the Cantonese congregation.

e. Visiting Churches

During the team's first day there, we visited Bishop's Stortford (an hour's drive south of Cambridge) where 200+ Hong Kong new immigrant families reside. Pastor KC conducted the first of three parenting workshops to the Hong Kong new immigrants and the team engaged in meaningful conversations with those who attended. The Bishop's Stortford church was founded by the Cambridge Alliance Church. Beginning September 14th, they have a weekly worship service on Saturdays and a full-time pastor.

f. Street Café

The team participated in the bi-annual street café held at Holy Trinity Church in Cambridge City Centre that took place on August 30th and 31st. The Street Café is hosted by Cambridge Alliance Church, and Pastor Collin from CCiL (Chinese Church in London) provided training for participants re techniques on approaching strangers as well as on how to use the Four Signs, both on Zoom and in person on Street Café days. The Four Signs (a heart, division symbol, cross and question mark - to represent the four points of the gospel in a clear and easy-to-remember way) is an evangelism tool widely used in European countries to share the Gospel. Despite fears of talking to strangers in English, team members prepared themselves by praying about it months before and stepped out in faith. The passersby either politely rejected, walked straight by, or accepted drinks that were prepared for them. While they patiently waited for their drinks, team members had the opportunity to have conversations with them. Participants were divided into three groups and rotated for the morning and afternoon sessions: baristas who prepared drinks; the prayer team who stood across the street and prayed for everyone in conversations and everything in sight; and the ones who approached people for conversations. We witnessed how the Lord prepared the way for some of these conversations to happen, some of which continued for a long time.

g. Mandarin Children Sunday School

At the Mandarin congregation's request, Lucy conducted an impromptu Children Sunday School workshop to teach the Mandarin-speaking parents on ways to run Sunday School classes for their children and pre-teens.

h. Cambridge Christian Heritage Tour

Rev. Rosa Chan acted as our guide and took us on an eye-opening Christian Heritage Tour around the Cambridge University campuses. We witnessed just how much Cambridge's story of saints, martyrs, sinners, sceptics, and scholars has to say to us as we walked around the beautiful city of Cambridge, all while encountering the key people and movements which have shaped the University of Cambridge and its colleges over the past 800 years. We were transported back in time as we walked the same streets once taken by famous Cambridge alumni like Isaac Newton, William Wilberforce, John Milton, and the Cambridge Seven, just to name a few. We heard stories about Cambridge characters who transformed the world, as we listened intently on subjects such as the Protestant Reformation, the roles of the martyrs, the call of the Cambridge Seven to serve in China, and religious freedom, etc.

III. Conclusion:

My takeaway from this and all past short-term missions trips that I have participated in can be summarized as follows:

1. **Come, See, Go, and Tell**

One of the greatest missionary scriptures can be found in the Gospel of Matthew, describing the words spoken by the angel on that morning of Jesus' resurrection. Four words summarize the process and plan of Jesus Christ to reach people with the gospel: **come, see, go, and tell**. As we sincerely **come** to Christ seeking salvation, and **see** the truth of the gospel, we must **go** into the world and **tell** others. Our risen Lord is building His church and will return soon. This truth should compel us to run and share this good news with others!

2. **Lives Transformed: My Own, Team Members and Believers**

Previously devoid of any adventurous spirit, participation and leadership in short-term missions over the years have revealed to me the inadequacies and sinfulness of humanity, the incompleteness of the world, and the miraculous transformation of lives by God. Not only have believers' lives been transformed, so were the lives of the mission team members. God uses transformed lives to influence others. What amazed me the most was witnessing many lives being transformed, even right within my own team. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. Indeed, It is *"Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts."* Zechariah 4:6

3. **Care and Support for Missionaries**

Learning from missionaries who rely on the Holy Spirit in various forms of prayer and look to God's guidance and providence by faith. The fruits of faith may not be immediately visible, but trusting God with faith and knowing that He is in complete control of everything is the greatest lesson. The challenging work that missionaries offer to God may not be something we can see here on the home front, but when we show our support by personally going to their missions field, we can gain a firsthand understanding on their daily lives and struggles, which will enable us to pray more specifically for their needs.

4. **Lessons in Faith**

Having experienced God's divine interventions in missions fields where things could quickly get out of control have enabled me to lean on God the same way in everyday life and when the going gets tough. I have learned to let go and let God take full control. During multiple short-term mission trips, I often witnessed God's miraculous guidance and providence, directly impacting my ministry and personal life. During the past 10 years, I personally went through multiple job losses, loss of family members, and enough challenges and problems that could easily have discouraged me from serving Him. But I firmly believed that this was God's calling, so I continued to step forward by faith.

I marvel at how God can do the impossible, and how meticulously He prepares for those He loves. I often ask myself, if God performed these miracles in the missions field, wouldn't He also work wonders in my daily life? My job is to walk in His will and obey Him.

God is faithful; when we seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, all these things

will be added to us, far beyond what we could ever ask or imagine (Matthew 6:33). Therefore, I have nothing to boast except about the Lord's great power and might and all that He has accomplished through us. He does not need us to do anything great or leave a significant mark in history. He wants us to obey His command, to influence others with our lives, and to spread the gospel to the ends of the earth. The Lord's return is near, and we do not know how much time we have to work for Him, so we must seize the opportunity and give our best to Him .

Indeed, God commands only what He enables, and He promises to never ask us to do something for which we are not empowered to do. His work is done only through the power of the Holy Spirit. Our job is to heed the call and to partner with Him in carrying out His plan.

I don't know what my next mission is or when it will be, but I am willing and ready! How about you?

Pastor Ken Cheng

Thank God, the ten-day STM trip passed very fast that we experienced a lot of God's grace and guidance. God also opened my eyes.

(1) God's grace and guidance

When I first learned that there were only 4 people signing up for the mission trip, my feelings were a little bit upset. Under this circumstance, I prayed God to forgive my little faith, and asked God to reveal His plan and to prepare suitable brothers and sisters to join in. At last, there were nine brothers and sisters who signed up at the deadline of the application. Thanked God to listen to our prayer. A nine-member team was a very appropriate number. If there were more than nine people, there was not enough place to live in the student center. Some people had to sleep in the living room on the ground floor. In addition, the nine people were divided into three VBS teaching groups, plus the principal of VBS and administrative director that made the VBS run smoothly. Students enjoyed attending the VBS very much. Finally, 10 children were willing to accept the gospel and believed in the Lord Jesus as their Savior.

Furthermore, each team member worked closely together. It was a very beautiful and cooperative team.

(2) Pastoring new immigrants in Hong Kong

An independent media reported in May 2024 that about 140,000 people arrived in the United Kingdom through the BNO+1 policy. In response to the large number of Hong Kong people coming to the UK, the Cambridge Alliance Church began to set up Cantonese worship in 2021, with more than 200 believers participating. In September 2024, they set up a gospel base in Bishop to start Cantonese worship too. The HK New immigrants were very active and engaged in church activities, serving enthusiastically in worship and Street café to witnessed God's grace!

I deeply appreciated and admired Pastor Chan and Elder Kwong, who have served in Cambridge Alliance Church for 27 years. In addition to preaching, visiting, and handling the administration of the church, they mastered the Cambridge campus ministry too, which was all by God's grace. Their dedication and faithfulness to God were an example to me!

(3) Reflection

The world mission is one of the two major traditions of the Christian and missionary Alliance. This short mission trip helps me realize that God does not ignore the Hong Kong people and the United Kingdom Church. Taking an advantage of this new wave of HK immigration, it is not only deepening the spiritual life of new immigrant believers, but also renewing the church in United Kingdom. It is hoped that the church in United Kingdom will regain its former honor and send HK leaders and pastors to other European countries to flourish the local churches, lead local believers to preach the gospel, and make disciples of all nations before the Lord comes (Matthew 24:14).

I also pray that the Lord will open the eyes of Jaffray Church brothers and sisters, so that they can see and be sent by God to participate in short-term missions as well. They can experience God's presence, grace, and respond to the Great Commission of the Lord (Matthew 18:19-20). Amen!

David Wong

Before heading to England for our Cambridge short-term mission (STM), one common question arose: "England is a Christian country; why go there for STM?" My research revealed a stark contrast: in the 1800s, most in the UK identified as Christians, and by 1900, the UK was a leading nation in sending missionaries abroad. Yet statistics from the 2010s show less than 15% profess to be Anglican, with fewer than 2% of college students involved in churches. God is telling me that people need the Lord, and this land needs a revival.

In our first week, the nine STM members led a four-day VBS program. Christa and I taught students aged 10-11. Although they enjoyed the games and crafts, it's hard to keep their attention in lessons. On the last day, I shared the 5-color Gospel to convey Jesus' story—gold for heaven, black for sin, red for blood, white for salvation, and green for growth. Despite feeling inadequate, I watched as the students absorbed each word. When I asked if they believed in Jesus and wanted to commit their lives to Him, each of the five students raised their hands. Tears filled my eyes as we rejoiced together, reminding me of Matthew 19:14: "Let the little children come to me... for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." We prayed that these seeds have found good soil and will grow in His time.

After VBS, we engaged in two days of "street café" outreach in the Cambridge town center, offering free coffee and tea. Initially nervous about approaching strangers, we were trained and encouraged by a leader from London. I began with simple lines like, "Good morning, it's a lovely day; would you like a free drink?" and "We are Christians from Canada; Jesus says love our neighbors and we are here to serve the community." Many accepted and engaged in conversations, while some chose to walk by. Over two days, our team spoke with people from various backgrounds, sharing our stories and Jesus' story. Many scanned QR codes for more information about Christianity and local churches. It was a humbling reminder of Matthew 9:37: "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few." Through stepping out of our comfort zones, we boldly shared our lives and Jesus' love.

In summary, our time in Cambridge was not only about activities but also about the relationships formed and the seeds sown. We returned to Canada inspired to continue sharing the good news

in our own communities. May we all be encouraged to live out our faith with boldness and compassion.

Peter So

England (aka UK) – a name that is not unfamiliar to someone like me who grew up in a British colony. However, before participating in this short-term mission trip, I had never experienced this land, which is as culturally diverse as Canada. This time, because of the mission trip, I went to Cambridge and London. I began to gain a deeper understanding of this metropolis, which houses local and global cultural heritage, historical sites, and some of the oldest and most renowned universities. Moreover, a new chapter was opened in my spiritual life. Through serving in the VBS (Vacation Bible School), Street Café (talking to strangers), interacting with local brothers and sisters, and living harmoniously with the team, God made me aware of my shortcomings but also revealed that His grace is abundant everywhere.

Children in the VBS were all innocent and adorable. Some were as lively as “monkeys off the leash,” while others were initially shy but warmed up after two days. They were more engaged in outdoor activities because of their boundless energy, which was a significant challenge for me. I hadn’t taught children’s Sunday school for many years, but these few days with them rekindled my courage to take up the Sunday school teaching role again, hoping to grow with the children in the Lord.

Street Café was a rare opportunity to invite passersby to enjoy the free coffee we prepared for them and to communicate in English. Of course, you need to be prepared for rejection. Even though you sincerely wave at them, you might get responses like “Thank you!” or “No, thanks.” This kind of “nine out of ten rejections” reaction—does it make you feel comfortable? The Bible teaches us that they are not rejecting you, but we should pray for them! Some tourists would stop and chat with you; they were friendly, but unfortunately, their lives lacked God. They placed the most important part of their lives in the hustle and bustle of daily life, seeking only material satisfaction without making any plans for their spiritual lives. This experience made me realize that the harvest field is larger than I imagined. Who is willing to take on the responsibility of harvesting?

In the local church, I met many brothers and sisters, both in the Mandarin and Cantonese congregations. They were very friendly and helped me understand some historical backgrounds of Cambridge, showing us local cultural delicacies, which was truly eye-opening. We had the opportunity to participate in the Street Café service with the local church, learning together to make a good cup of coffee, which was not easy. Seeing many brothers and sisters actively participating, their enthusiasm and faith were something we should learn from. I met a brother who had recently come from Hong Kong and accepted Christ. We had a long and sincere conversation, understanding the difficulties faced by Hong Kong immigrants in the UK, encouraging and praying for each other, which was truly a beautiful thing.

Our entire team stayed in a three-storey house with complete facilities. Although a few sisters had to share a room, they had no complaints and were considerate of each other in all aspects, actively taking on chores like cleaning and washing dishes. After a busy day, going out to buy groceries turned out to be a stress-relieving and relaxing activity. Besides having morning devotion and sharing time, we also had debriefing in the evenings, sharing our experiences of the day’s work, discussing areas for improvement, and witnessing God’s work in us, which was truly wonderful. Through living together, the team understood each other more, learned to share,

accommodate, and harmonize; the fruits of the Spirit were evident among us. In difficult situations, we supported each other, prayed together, and looked to God, resulting in tangible outcomes.

Throughout this short-term mission trip, although I felt inadequate in many areas, God's Spirit gave me confidence and strength to complete the tasks. I realized that my personal life was reshaped by God, continuing to equip myself, ready to accept another new challenge at any time. I believe that God not only used the nine of us but also moved more brothers and sisters to be willing to go to different fields, understand the needs of the harvest field, and accept God's call to be faithful harvesters.

Pia Liu

This was my first STM trip. I decided to go because I wanted to experience what an STM is. Since I have never travelled with my team and never been to the UK before, I was a bit nervous and did not know how to prepare myself. So, I focused on four questions.

Could I handle the children well? Could I clearly express the Bible message to them? How could I overcome my language barriers when talking to strangers? Would I be more troublesome than helpful to the team?

Some people also asked me why I was going to Cambridge UK, rather than other underdeveloped or non-Christian countries? I could not give them an answer.

Nevertheless, I really treasured this opportunity and fully trusted in God's leading and our team leader's discretions, so those questions and doubts did not hinder me. Instead, they pushed me closer to the decision to join. Throughout the 12-day mission schedule, I truly experienced how the Holy Spirit works within His people and how He had brought us together as a team to cooperate according to his purpose. We could personally see many wonderful things happen and that motivated our hearts to reach out to the seekers there.

Through many events, the parenting workshop, joining two different churches, chatting with both Mandarin and Cantonese groups, VBS programs, Street Cafes - community services, the heritage tour, meals invitations and different conversations, I got a glimpse of the past Christian and political history. I also learned about some of the new immigrants' personal struggles, worries and uncertainties of their future in Cambridge.

Particularly, I need to mention the following people that highly inspired me on this trip.

Our team leader, Cynthia, spent so much time making plans, buying tickets, liaising between different groups of people, hosting meetings, writing updates every night, and keeping our prayer warriors posted. In addition, she and Peter took very good care of the whole team. They cooked us impressive made-to-order breakfasts and specialty dinners.

Pastor Ken's Sunday sermon and several impromptu parenting workshops had drawn the attention of many, including those non-believers from faraway. Not to mention, I benefited a lot from them too.

Lucy and Cynthia's personal testimonies touched my heart as well as the Mandarin and Cantonese congregations' people. Their feedback was so encouraging.

Belinda, Christa, David, Emily, and Lucy with the VBS preparations, creative crafts ideas, their passions, and efforts to explain the meaning of Bible parables attributed to the 10 children in accepting Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. I was so excited to see this happen.

The stories of Pastor Rosa and Elder Kwong's 27 years of ministries in Cambridge were full of many challenges, struggles, uncertainties. However, because of their determinations and devotion to loving Christ and the lost, those who have not heard the Gospel, they persisted and carried on. Their footprints of diligent services surely would inspire many Christians.

Pastor Collin provided Street Café training, both on Zoom and in person. The workshop was very helpful to us as novices in that kind of community service. I could feel her enthusiasm in spreading the Gospel and her thoughtful ways of connecting with strangers.

Sister Ye Fong, the deaconess of Cambridge Alliance Church along with Pastor Rosa and Elder Kwong gave us rides to and from places everyday, some other brothers and sisters provided us cooked lunches every day of VBS. Their warm welcomes and loving meals filled our hearts and bellies to the brim.

Through their kindness and love serving, I saw many models of God's faithful disciples. We also enjoyed a very good Heritage Christian Colleges tour guided by Pastor Rosa. From her knowledgeable historical studies, we could learn about how the diligent work of known Christian scientists, scholars, physicians, and philosophers influenced the British history and the evangelism to the world.

Just as Pastor Ken told me, the most important point of going on an STM is not what we could do for God but for every team member to see how God is working within different people.

The hugs, kisses from the kids and the handshake with the gentleman who returned to the street café on the second day are the moments that warmed my heart, and I consider them as the sweetest rewards to me.

All these bring me to conceptualize Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him who have been called according to His purpose". I feel so blessed to be a part of the team.

We saw a local church had already turned into a café and I know some other churches in different UK cities were even converted to restaurants or tourist shopping centers. There is no doubt that the Christianity population is declining and the hostility towards Christians is growing in UK, however, there are people who still want the love of God. I pray that they could see God's mercy and salvation and that they would not be worn down by their worldly worries.

I am very grateful for God granting me this precious life experience while I am still physically capable. Especially, I am thankful for all the prayer warriors' spiritual and financial support that made our trip possible, completed sufficiently and safely without accident.

Here, I would like to acknowledge Christa for her help in editing and correcting my English, so that everyone could read it clearly. Much appreciation to you, Christa.

Belinda Cheng

Give thanks to God that I can join the Cambridge UK STM trip. Thankful from my heart that I got support from my cell group brothers and sisters right from the beginning. Two of them, Wilman & Sylvia Lau came to see the STM team off at Pearson Airport. Thanks be to brothers and sisters for both of their mental support and prayer support.

Upon arrival at the Cambridge Coach Station, I eventually met Pastor Rosa and Elder Kwong whose names I have heard for months. Their efficiency in picking up nine of us and our luggage could be seen right away.

In the following days, they led us into various ministries, met with people from Hong Kong at Bishop UK, worship services at the Cambridge church, 4 days of VBS, street cafe outreach, evening gathering at a deacon's house, and a cultural tour. Through all those days with them, I learned stories of their amazing 27 years of dedication in Cambridge UK. They started up a Chinese church from zero and now it is a spiritual home to the Chinese community from China. With the recent migration of people from Hong Kong, the church becomes a meeting place for the brothers and sisters from Hong Kong as well. A Cantonese congregation is formed by the enthusiastic brothers and sisters from Hong Kong. Worshipping the Lord with them in 2 Sundays was an eye-opening experience to me in praising God with the HongKongers and witnessing the wonderful hand and work of God in these people and in Cambridge UK.

We were arranged to live at the ministry house located in the heart of Cambridge. The ministry house is surrounded by the Christ's College, Emmanuel College, Jesus College, and is in walking distance to the King's College, Trinity College, St. John's College, downtown and Cam River for punting. This ministry house has been and will continue to be a house for missionaries, a hub for reaching out ministries and holding warm spiritual family gatherings. The story of this ministry house is a testimony of God's miraculous provision to the advancement of God's work in such a central location of Cambridge UK.

From the street Cafe outreach, I get to know that quite a lot of college students are from China. Some would like to stay if they can, and some would go back to China after graduation. They remind me of the famous Chinese poet Xu Zhimo who was a student at King's College in the 1920's and had left his trace and a memory to the local people in Cambridge UK even nowadays. I am thankful for Cambridge church to include us in their street cafe ministry during our short stay there. What a precious practicing opportunity for us to share the gospel and our testimonies to strangers. We were all trained to use a new and effective outreach tool called the 4 Signs. I really appreciate their effort and gracious reception to us.

VBS teaching allows me a glimpse of the Chinese children in Cambridge UK. They are lovely, yet their world is inevitably influenced by their family background and upbringing. Nevertheless, they appreciate care and unselfish love from unknown teachers and friendship among fellow classmates who they might only see once a year in summer, especially the older kids.

In this short stay, I see similarities of Chinese immigrants in Cambridge UK and in Canada. They experienced struggles settling in a foreign country. For those who met God in the UK gave their testimonies of God's redeeming grace and became God's faithful followers. There are believers who need shepherding and non-believers who need to find God or to acknowledge God. For Christianity at large, less and less resolute followers who would keep the Sabbath and worship God. It is sad to see a church building turned into a cafe. It is a church closing not due to

persecution.

It will be the call from the local church if they need outside help. When such request reaches us, we can respond positively if we are always prepared to go. Nowadays, with globalization, missions are from everywhere to everywhere.

Lucy

In September 2024, a dedicated team from Toronto Jaffray Chinese Alliance Church embarked on a transformative mission trip to Cambridge, United Kingdom. Our journey was centered around community outreach, spiritual engagement, and mutual growth among team members and local congregations. Over the course of our time in Cambridge, we engaged in a variety of activities that enriched both our lives and the lives of those we served.

Our mission included testimony sharing, workshops for parents and Children Sunday school teachers, and organizing a four-day Vacation Bible School (VBS) for children, serving 16 eager participants. The VBS was a particularly fulfilling experience, as we created an engaging and educational environment for the children. Witnessing their enthusiasm and joy was a highlight of our trip, reinforcing the importance of nurturing the faith of the next generation.

One of the most significant initiatives we undertook was the Street Café, which allowed us to connect with the local community. This outreach program was a collaboration with the local church congregation, where we served refreshments and shared stories with people from diverse backgrounds. The experience of meeting brothers and sisters in Christ from around the world was profoundly rewarding. We adapted the approach using the "four signs" of outreach, which I found particularly valuable. These signs will be instrumental in shaping my ministry back in Canada, helping us to engage more effectively with our own community.

Throughout our mission, the strength of our team was a constant source of encouragement. I had the opportunity to get to know my fellow team members on a personal level, sharing meals, engaging in evening debriefs, and participating in devotion sessions together. These moments of connection fostered a supportive environment where we could openly communicate and uplift one another. The servant leadership demonstrated by Pastor Rosa and Elder Kwong was especially inspiring. Their commitment to serving both our team and the local community set a powerful example for all of us.

However, our journey was not without its challenges. One of the difficulties I faced was getting to know the team members before the trip. While we were united in purpose, building relationships during the trip itself was crucial for effective collaboration. Additionally, I encountered a language barrier that limited my ability to communicate with some members of the team and the local congregations. My Cantonese skills were basic, and while I could listen and understand to the full extent, but not able to speak the language has made deeper connections more challenging. This experience highlighted the importance of language and cultural understanding in mission work.

Overall, the mission trip to Cambridge was a deeply enriching experience. It provided opportunities for personal growth, strengthened my faith, and allowed me to serve alongside dedicated brothers and sisters in Christ. The lessons learned, particularly through the Street Café and VBS, will resonate with me as I return to Canada. I am excited to implement the insights gained and continue the work we started, fostering connections and faith within our own

community. This mission trip not only impacted those we served but also transformed us as individuals, deepening our commitment to our faith and each other.

Christa Mo

This was my first time going on a mission trip. Previously, I never thought I would ever go out into the world on a mission trip and brushed off that responsibility to others at church. Now, I'm so grateful for the experience because I've gotten to experience the immense joy of talking to strangers about the gospel and seeing how God works in people's lives across the world. I know going to the UK must have been a luxurious STM. I felt so blessed by all the people that I know were praying for us, prayers from my fellow team members, and the thoughtful people who hosted or cooked meals for us there. I felt well-supported and encouraged by my team throughout the journey. I am also grateful for the 16 children who came to VBS. Although it was a smaller group than we initially expected, it worked out well as it allowed us to spend more time with them as individuals or in smaller groups. In my experience with Group 3, the small group size fostered stronger relationship building and provided opportunities for more meaningful conversations to occur.

To run the VBS in partnership with Cambridge Alliance Church (CAC), my roles included collaborating with Lucy to lead worship, crafts, and plan games, as well as being the Group 3 teacher for children in Years 5-6, with David as my teaching assistant. We spent those four days of VBS getting to know our 5 campers deeper and praying for them to know and accept Jesus. The Bible lessons taught by Lucy were very well done and seeds were sown with them. The Holy Spirit worked on the children to really reflect on where their faith lay. I was overjoyed by their curiosity as their interests about God were piqued and I witnessed positive changes in their behaviours towards each other and growth in faith in those four days. At the debrief meeting after the third day of VBS, our team decided we should present the five-coloured gospel to each class on our last day. Therefore, David and I practiced presenting it to each other that night, with the help of Pia's diligent notes. After David presented the five-coloured gospel to Group 3, we asked if any of them would like to believe in Jesus and follow Him. Immediately, all 5 campers raised their hands. I briefly spoke to them to make sure they understood that this was a serious and life-changing decision. David also clarified that this meant they would have to stop doing the sins they know they are doing. When we asked them again, all 5 hands went up again without hesitation, so David prayed for everyone as a group. After the graduation ceremony that afternoon, I spoke with them individually to invite them to church on Sunday, hoping that they would continue attending church at CAC. May God receive all glory and praise for all 10 children from Group 2 and 3 accepting Jesus as their Saviour!

Another first experience for me was Street Café ministry. I was the most hesitant about joining this STM after hearing that Street Café was one of the activities because I didn't think I was good at small talk or talking with strangers, but in the end, I decided it would be easier to be bold and share the gospel with people I would never see again. Thankfully, we received practical training in Cambridge for how to connect with the strangers on the street, how to explain what we were doing, and how to introduce them to the gospel. We learned three keys to make a connection with locals which are asking about their struggles and worries, about their hobbies, and how they are the same or different from their old selves.

Street Café operated with three groups of people in alternating roles. One group would approach strangers and invite them for a drink and chat while another group would prepare the drinks, and the third group would stand across the street to do continuous live prayer for the

locals and interactions occurring. The group approaching strangers were responsible for inviting them to have a free drink and telling them that we were a group of Christians doing this to love our neighbours as God commanded us. There were a handful of people who were tourists rather than locals, but our course of action remained the same. I found it interesting that the baristas should take their time preparing the drinks to buy more time for those talking to locals. The drinks were made with high quality ingredients and with genuine effort rather than just being an acceptable free drink, because we wanted to share the love of Christ by giving them the best that we could.

While locals waited for their drinks, we would ask them to play the four-signs game which included a heart, division symbol, cross, and question mark. These symbols were a love story, and we would ask them to guess how the story went. After they shared their hypotheses, we told them our version which was the love story between God and us. God loves us so much, but we were separated by sin, so He sent His one and only perfect son Jesus to die on the cross for us to cleanse our sin, and we used to question mark to ask them what they thought about the story. This game was an easy and useful tool that we can learn to use ourselves when sharing the gospel, as it also invites people to think on it. We were also encouraged to share our personal testimonies with the locals and pray for them on the street about whatever we felt God putting on our hearts for them and emphasizing that we know they are so precious and loved by God. If applicable, we also offered them pamphlets recommending churches, an Alpha course running, and an information booklet telling them more about who Jesus is.

I surprised myself when I found how easy it was to connect with strangers, no doubt, thanks to the Holy Spirit giving me the right words and circumstances, along with the continuous live prayer from brothers and sisters across the street. I found the Street Café experience very fulfilling. I was so ecstatic after getting the opportunity to play the four signs game and share my testimony with two teenagers that I physically jumped up and down. After each interaction, I took a moment to write down their names in my phone so we would have a record of the people we can continue to pray for. One significant interaction to me was with a Muslim man. I asked him to share why he chose to believe in Islam, and he told me it was because his family and country believed. He admitted that he never really thought about why he believed. Despite the interaction being cut short, I was happy with the exchange because I hoped it would lead him to reflect on his beliefs and later, search for a relationship God.

We also visited the new church in Bishop's Stortford, where Pastor KC gave one of many parenting workshops. After the workshop, our team chatted with the immigrants from Hong Kong. I experienced a warm welcome from both CAC and the church in Bishop and hope that new immigrants who walk into the churches will feel just as welcome. Sadly, I personally did not get the chance to have deep conversations with many of the immigrant adults to learn about their faith and struggles.

A small additional task I had on this mission trip was playing piano for the CAC Mandarin congregation worship on the second Sunday we were there. This came with a few small challenges as it tested my Mandarin speaking abilities while co-operating with the Mandarin-speaking worship leader, I had to learn three songs which I had never heard before with only a few days to practice, and my glasses broke the Friday just before I needed to play. I was encouraged by all the prayers and messages I received and with God's will, none of these obstacles inhibited me from playing piano for worship. After the piano playing went relatively smoothly, I was delighted that I could contribute and serve at another church with the musical abilities God has given me.

Through this experience, I learned to be open to new experiences, flexible with circumstances and change, and willing to do what I could to the best of my capabilities. However, the lesson that stuck out to me the most was that sharing the gospel is not only done through verbally telling people about God. We also share the gospel through our actions as we are living examples of Christ.

郑坚民传道

感恩，十天的剑宣行程匆匆过去，经历很多神的恩典及保守，也开启了自己的眼界。

(一) 神的恩典及保守

当初得知只有4人报名是次短宣的时候，心情有点失望，心想是否要取消今次的短宣？我只能默默祈祷，求神赦免我的小信，并显明祂的心意，预备合适的弟兄姊妹参加。

结果，在截止报名时连同我共有九位弟兄姊妹报名，感谢神垂听了我们的祷告。九名成员是非常合适的人数，因为再多些，学生中心的地方不够地方住，有人要睡地下的客厅，朝拆晚行，不太方便。另外，九人刚好分成三组老师，加上VBS的校长及行政总监。这组合使VBS十分顺利进行，学员很喜欢上堂，参与唱诗、讨论、做手工、听故事等，最后有10位孩子愿意接受福音，相信主耶稣作他们个人的救主，这是神奇妙的安排。

除此以外，每位队员在服侍期间紧密合作，彼此发挥各人恩赐，有管理的、教导的、财务的、煮食的、清洁的、提点的...，各尽其职，照着各人的功用，互相补位，一起事奉配搭，十分美好，是难得合拍的团队。

(二) 牧养香港新移民

一独立媒体于2024年5月报告，约有14万人透过「BNO+1」政策抵达英国。其中不乏信徒领袖及传道同工。因应来英的香港人士不少，剑桥宣道会于2021年开始成立粤语堂崇拜，现约有200多名信徒参与；更于2024年9月在Bishop成立福音据点，开始粤语崇拜。我们在短宣期间，Bishop只开设家长讲座，保持大家联系。香港新移民信徒在参与聚会方面十分主动及投入，在敬拜及传福音(Street Cafe)上热心事奉，没有因为生活艰难而为五斗米折腰，反

倒更积极在英国持守基督信仰，见证神的恩典。！

本人十分欣赏及佩服陈牧师及邝长老，在人力及物力不足的情况下，难得在剑桥宣事奉了27年。除了讲道，探访，处理教会行政事务外，还要兼顾剑桥校园事工(Campus Ministry)，十分不容易，这全是神的恩典。他们忠心服侍，全然奉献，是我效发的榜样。！

(三) 反思

普世差传是宣道会两大传统之一，是次短宣深深体会到神是掌管历史的主，一切的事都在祂管辖之内，祂没有不理睬香港人及英国教会，借着香港新一轮的移民潮，不单洗涤及深化香港新移民信徒的属灵生命，还更新英国的教会，真是一箭双雕！盼望英国教会重拾昔日的雄风，差派香港的属灵领袖及同工，前往欧洲其他国家，兴旺当地教会，带领当地信徒传扬福音，在主未到之日，使万民作主的门徒(太24:14)。

另外，我也求主开启翟辅民堂会友的眼界，让弟兄姊妹看见自己也可以被神差派出去，参与短宣，一起经历神的同在，恩典及看顾，一起回应及完成主吩咐的大使命 (太18:19-20)。最后以加拿大宣道会异象祷告作结：「上帝啊，我们全心全意地渴慕祢。来吧，转化我们，以致我们能成为以耶稣基督为中心，以圣灵为能力，以宣教为焦点的人，到世界各地培植更多门徒。」阿门!

苏俊声

英国，这个名字对一个在英国殖民地长大的我并不感到陌生，不过我在参加短宣之前，是从未接触过这遍好像加拿大一样充满着多元文化色彩的土地。今次因为参加了短宣的缘故，我去了伦敦-剑桥，开始对这个收藏了本地及世界各

国的文化遗产、历史遗迹；以及拥有最古老及最著名大学的一个大都市，有了更深入的了解。不但如此，在我属灵生命里面，也揭开了了全新的一页；透过做暑期圣经班、Street Café（与一些陌生的过路人倾谈），和当地弟兄姊妹的交往，及团队彼此和睦同居等等的服侍中，神就让我明白自己的不足，但却发现祂的恩典，在任何地方都不缺少。

暑期圣经班中的小朋友，个个都天真可爱，有些如「甩绳马骝」的蹦蹦跳跳，有些虽然初时比较羞涩，但过了两天便已经熟络起来，而他们会对一些户外活动比较投入，只因他们精力充沛，对我来说这是一个极大的挑战。我已多年没有教导儿童主日学了，或许这几天与他们的相处，挑起我重拾主日学教鞭的勇气，更希望再能与小孩子们在主里一同成长。

Street Café是一个非常难得的机会，用英语邀请路人品尝我们为他们预备的免费咖啡，当然你要准备好一个会被人拒绝的心态。虽然你会好有诚意地向他们招手，换来了可能是一句「多谢啦！」或者「不用了」，大部份都是「十问九不睬」的反应，你心里会舒服吗？圣经也教导我们，他们拒绝的不是你，但我们更要为他们祈祷呢！有几个游客会停下来与你倾谈，他们的态度是和蔼的，但可惜他们生命中并没有神，将生命最重要的部分，放在营营役役的生活当中，他们只寻找生活上的满足，没有为到永恒的生命作出任何打算。这次令我深刻体会到禾场比我想像之中更大，谁能愿意肩负这个收割的重任呢？

在当地教会中认识了不少弟兄姊妹，有国语堂的也有广东话堂的，他们对我们都十分友善，也帮助我去了解剑桥当地一些历史背景，实在令我们大开眼界。我们有机会同当地教会参与Street Café的服侍，与他们一齐学习；去做出一杯好味的咖啡实在并不简单。眼见不少弟兄姊妹非常积极参与，他们的热诚和信心是值得我们去学习的。我遇上一个刚从香港来了不久就信主的弟兄，与他有一段颇长时间的真诚分享，了解到香港移民在英国的困难实况，彼此勉励及代

祷，实在是一件难能可贵的美事。

我们整个团队住在一间三层高的楼房，设备十分齐全，虽然有几个姊妹要共处一个房间，但他们不但没有任何怨言，反而在各方面都互相体恤，对于清洁、洗碗等家务也甚为主动。而我们经过一日忙碌的工作后，出外买餸竟然是一个能够减压、放松心境的环节。我们除了早上有一同灵修分享时间之外，晚上也有团队的工作报告；彼此分享对一整天工作的体会，寻求有可以改进的地方；又或许在那方面见证到神的工作，白白成就在我们身上，这是何等的奇妙经历呀！在共处的过程中，团队彼此了解更多，懂得互相分担、迁就、磨合；属灵的果子就在我们中间显露出来。在危险困境之中，我互相扶持，同心祷告仰望神，以致得到了切实的果效。

在今次整个短宣旅程中，虽然我有很多地方都觉得自己做得不足，但神的灵给我信心，也给我力量去完成了。发觉我的个人生命被神再次塑造起来，继续装备好自己，随时去接受另一个新的挑战。我深信神不单止使用我们这九个弟兄姊妹，深信也同样感动更多翟辅民弟兄姊妹，愿意出到不同的工场当中，去经历、感受禾场的需要，接受神的呼召，作一个忠心的收割者。

陈小慧

剑桥短宣是我第一次出队之前亦从未踏足过英国之地。今次决定参加是因为想了解短宣队的工作，及肯定是否有其意义及果效。其实我对自己的年纪及能力都有有顾虑，不知道是否会被接纳或能否在神的事工上作点帮助。一轮的踌躇不定后还是顺着圣灵的催促决定申请，只怕不去便多了一件人生憾事。

感谢神，我终于踏上短宣的经验之旅更满载神恩地回来。

十二天密集的程序，集体的生活，共同事奉的经验让我非常享受及难忘。虽然我们的队员有不同年龄、不同职业、不同文化背景但我们合作无间，互相配合，互相扶持。有几次突发的意外，临急的改动，都能应对及时，这实在是圣灵的保守。感谢所有教会祷告勇士的遥远支持使我们各事能够顺利完成，全无意外。我们每次交通上的往返都畅通无误，各人的精神体力都应付得及，更没有人生病，全是神的恩典。

郑传道的讲道「看见不见」及亲子工作坊：「孩子，父母，成人对话的模式」都提醒了我很多不自觉的盲点。各队友的个人见证都令我更看见神爱的医治能力及圣灵工作的奇妙。

队长和每个队友的忠心积极服事，看到每人独特不同的恩赐和配搭。让我感受到主内互为肢体的力量。

剑宣的陈牧师及邝长老在剑桥27年的宣教工作，令我极之欣佩。他们夫妇俩多年来的事奉，在徬徨困苦，担忧时经历到神恩手扶助，甚至成立现在的二百多人的剑桥宣道会及植了近百人的Bishop堂。另外陈牧师对剑桥市各大学的历史名人，卓越的科学家，哲学家，生物学家，文学家的成就典故非常认识。一一述说多世纪来他们的基督信仰如何深远地影响英国及世界其他国家。给我们一次很精彩的导赏行。认识了解多位历史学家因着他们信神付出 - 生的代价是值得我们去纪念及敬重。

从未参与过街头咖啡站，用四个符号图吸引路人，带出讲福音的机会。两天的训练及实习都给我特别的体验。有礼貌地拒绝，有友善地讨论信仰，有特意的来挑战，亦有第二天再来说感谢及同祷告的。不同的回应都给我难能可贵的磨练和鼓励。

回想此次，给我深刻感受的是最年幼的一组孩子。他们三天内的转变是我喜出望外的。在第一天一位原本木讷寡言，冷漠自我的女孩，态度渐有转变。第三天已经开始愿意投入，愿意地跟我倾谈，听我为她讲耶稣对我的帮助，及至表示有兴趣拿一本圣经回家学读。另一位极度顽皮，永不合作的女孩直说想我们为她爸爸祷告，望早日找到工作。见到这孩子的相信，在无助时会祷告神。又有一位调皮，极度活跃令我头痛的男孩在临别一天要求和我一个拥抱。他3岁的妹妹更要给我一个面吻。这些都令我甜入心窝，暖入肺腑。主耶稣说让小孩子到我这里来。神就是喜爱我们学像小孩率直纯真的善良。不是我为他们作什么而是他们温暖我的心，加添我对神及人的认识。

正如郑传道告诉我：参加短宣队不全是要我们为神作什么工，更重要的是让我们看见神在不同人身上作的工。我以为自己去是为神付出，那知是我自己得着神的启发。不再注目以往的不幸、愁苦、恼怒、失败及无奈。前面的日子是记着神丰盛的恩典，托附的使命。

虽然短宣的工作已经完结，但抓紧传福音的心却未敢放下。短宣美好的记忆成为日后的动力，继续为主前行，可能的情况下向未信的人讲福音。

郑燕屏

感谢神有这次短宣的机会，我已经向差传部提交了这次短宣旅程的报告，但为这个分享而思想时，报告的内容没有出现我的脑海，却呈现了《美事》两个字。随后的日子，我都在思想何谓美事，有什么美事，为何是美事；亦祈求天父带领我当述说的，给我话语。

英国剑桥华人宣道会(剑宣)的牧者和长老，在当地服事达27年，他们满有接待

短宣队和应邀而来的领袖们的经验，对我们到访的安排无微不至，使我们毫无缺乏，非常美好。

由于我们是第一次踏足英国剑桥华人教会，对一切都不认识，有赖当地的牧者、长老、执事们告知他们的情况和需要，然后我们就作各样的准备。结果，彼此的配合所成就的工，令所服事的群体快乐和得到帮助；我们亦深深感恩神美善的眷顾和使用，使我们喜出望外和得着激励，是何等的美好。

接触剑宣的弟兄姊妹，普通话群体所接触的大都是姊妹，听到她们从不信到信主大大小小的经历，她们味味的道出，要述说和见证神的恩典和恩手。看到一些坚心倚赖神来面对她们生活上的困难，依然参与主日敬拜和服事。这些都令我感动，心中刻下神信实的爱和大能，使人有活的盼望和能量，神的美好岂能不赞叹和感谢。

剑宣的另一景象，是在近年的日子，不少从香港移居到英国剑桥的基督徒，他们都在异邦聚集一起来敬拜神。体会他们需要主的心，他们亦不忘当受敬拜的神。彼此或许相识、或许不相识，都走在一起，珍惜彼此的同在，明白大家正在面对的一二。我看到这种无形的支持和互动，带给大家所需要的那份力量。这样向外彰显的主里的爱，相信神都会看为美好。

今次短宣队的成员，有老有嫩，有短宣经验丰富的，亦有是第一次参与短宣的。我感恩我们都很合一，愿意分担工作，彼此接纳和包容，每一天都欣喜地度过。弟兄和睦同居，是何等的善、何等的美。

在圣经中寻找有没有美事，有，是在马太福音26章，耶稣称赞玛利亚用极贵的香膏膏抹祂，在旁的人投诉玛利亚枉费金钱，但耶稣称玛利亚所做祂身上的是一件美事。今天耶稣在天上，但祂留下教导，我们做在小子身上的善事，就

是做在袖身上。剑桥短宣，我们所作的是微不足道，但我们把天国和神话语的宝贵种在参与暑期圣经班的小子心中，成为他们不可磨灭的痕迹，伴随着他们长大，我看为是一件美事。

郑坚民传道所预备的专题讲座，在不同的群体和场合中，共分享了三次。每次我都听到观众说他们得着帮助，这亦是一件美事。

或许你会说，这些美事在本地都可以做，何须浪费金钱，跑到老远去做。是的，今天，宣教可以是在近处或远处。我认为若是远方真的需要外援，而呼声临到教会，为着神国度的缘故，教会可以回应，若然教会常有准备去的心。