



## **1. CHRISTMAS**

Christmas is about the greatest gift you and I could ever receive—the gift of a Savior whom God sent to be a perfect example of living faith, to die for our sins and be the unblemished sacrifice God required for our justification, to rise again, conquer death, and offer us life eternal. There is nothing we could ever do to deserve that gift. However, we can accept it humbly and out of our love for God and His perfect gift to us. Therefore, let us celebrate this Christmas by focusing on what we can do as a living sacrifice to live each day for Him.

Since our world is in middle of a global crisis, we are going to have a very different kind of Christmas this year. According to research, the uncertainty of the pandemic is contributing to rising anxiety in kids. In addition to all the stress and anxiety of rising COVID numbers, kids need to feel bonded and connected. The best way for children to cope with the stress is to be engaged in activities that keep Christ central.

With this in mind, on November 21, the Children's Servant Leaders and Caring Group have organized a list of Christmas outreach programs. These activities are to enable young children to have the best Christmas possible. They are meant to inspire great quarantine content for families and to provide our children with a gospel platform by inviting their friends and families to join us. Furthermore, we wish to provide the families with a joyous Christmas even in the midst of a pandemic when we are all stuck at home. You are therefore invited to participate in the 2020 Children and Family Christmas Programs. Please see the schedule at the end of this communication.

## **2. CHRISTMAS BAGS**

We packed more than 70 Christmas care packages, which we delivered to the children and their parents who attend our online service. Many thanks to Katherine Wai, Alice and Steven Ma for assisting in organizing the gifts over one week of hard work, and to Cristy for buying the goodies and Steven Ma for arranging the delivery route. We appreciate all the drivers for bringing joy to the children: Steven and Alice Ma, Katherine and Bryan Wai, Chris Lau, Chris Or, Isabella Wong, and Rev. Ng. The bags contained the following items:

### **a) Family Advent Guide**

Each family received an Advent Worship Guide that leads them to open the Bible, read the suggested verses, and pray together. If time allows, they can participate in the Family activity and then sing a Christmas carol together. These devotions, activities, and worship songs will help families rest in the hope, love, peace, and joy that only Jesus can bring.

### **b) Christmas coloring cards – Close circle outreach**

The Christmas care bags also included four different coloring cards to color and give to four different friends to invite them to join our Christmas online programs. We also asked the children to include our Christmas online schedule with the cards. This action will give them the opportunity to apply being on missions with the Lord and celebrate the birth of Christ by bringing friends to Jesus.

**c) Movie: “The Star”**

We will start our Christmas celebration by watching the movie “The Star” together. Parents are invited to join us for a family evening of animation, adventure, and comedy. The movie is the story of a small but brave donkey and his animal friends who become the unsung heroes of the first Christmas: the story we know, told through a different set of eyes.

**d) Activity pages**

We attached our 3-month activity pages for those who attend our virtual worship. The activities can be done during online worship service and Sunday School.

**e) Goodies**

We wrapped children’s candies and other goodies in each bag to cheer up the children who received them.

**f) Christian library**

Katherine Wai reopened the children’s library with Lydia Nie’s assistance. Because the church has been closed due to the pandemic, we are now delivering these books to the children’s homes. Each child should have received five books that were randomly chosen according to their age to enjoy during Christmas break. At the end of January, we plan to pick them up, sanitize them, and pass them to other families.

**g) Crafts with Yivana Au Yang**

There were materials for crafts that they can do on December 24 and 30.

**h) Cooking & Baking with Karine Chan**

Children are invited to join our cooking & baking class on December 22 and 29. The list of ingredients are provided at the back of our schedule.

**i) Cookie cutter**

We gave a cookie cutter to be used during baking with Ivana on December 22.

**j) Concert for Jesus**

We will have a Concert for Jesus on December 23 after the Volunteer Appreciation. Katherine Wai and Cristy Lam have taken the lead to organize this event. We ask that the children send videos of them playing their musical instrument, singing, or reading by Dec 13 to Pastor Hanna Ng’s WhatsApp: 780-720-7297. It will be a meaningful celebration focusing on the birth of our Messiah.

**k) Christmas Dance with Lydia Nie**

We will dance to Christian music and praise God merrily on December 29 and 31.

**l) Karaoke and Reading**

We will end with children singing and reading from the Bible or Christian books to celebrate His second coming to give us hope and faith for the new year on January 2. Children will get to participate by taking turns choosing their favorite Christmas Karaoke Carols and reading their favorite books.

**m) Magazines, Daily Bread, and Calendar**

We included parents’ gifts in our care package too. A “Daily Bread” devotion in Chinese, magazines in Chinese or English, and a calendar are provided for the parents.

### **3. 2021 CHILDREN'S SERVANT LEADERS**

Praise God for calling Cindy Li to be the Children's Department leader to represent us in the council and Miao Ling Tan to serve in the Children's Servant Leaders. Katherine Wai and Cristy Lam would like to assist the ministry without title. Many thanks to the caring group members for continuing to care for the children's families in 2021. I am honored to have Cindy Li, Miao Ling Tan, Katherine Wai, Cristy Lam, Alice Ma, Josephine Fung, Helen Mah, Helena Wong, and Hetta Chau serving in the caring group. Together we are building ECBC and His people.

### **4. PARENTS OF PRESCHOOLERS**

Since November, we have held a Preschoolers' Parenting Time after Preschooler's Worship every Sunday while the children are doing fitness exercises. Cindy Li had the great idea for this project. Thanks to Alice Ma, Cindy Li, and Mrs. Fung for coordinating this chat with the parents and sharing their experiences. We hope more parents can join us.

### **5. TEACHERS APPRECIATION**

Without our faithful volunteers we wouldn't be able to minister to the children and their parents during this difficult time. We would like to show great our appreciation through Zoom on December 23. Thank you to Helena Wong and her daughter Kezia for organizing this event. We invite children and their parents to participate in recognizing and supporting the work of our teachers and helpers.

### **6. MOVING**

Three families have moved to other cities and countries in the last three months. We will miss Vanness and Vanessa Liu, Juwon Kim, Aidan and Isla Brown. It was very encouraging to have Juwon continue participating in our online worship services over the last four Sundays since his move to Korea.

### **7. ESL**

We have started a new class for adults on November 23, 2020. Praise God for calling Heidi Wong to teach ESL through Zoom on Mondays from 12 – 1 pm. There are 17-19 students in the class. We hope to get another teacher so the class can be divided into 2 groups in order to meet the needs of the adult students.

### **8. Mark your calendar**

Miranda Fung will hold a Parenting Workshop in Cantonese on January 14<sup>th</sup> @ 11 am via Zoom. The title is 絕處逢生--兒女染上毒品或其他, 還有出路嗎? ( Surviving in Desperate Situations: Is there a way out for children who are affected with drugs and others?). Zoom Meeting ID: 882 2346 3073. Passcode: 171441

In His Service,

Hanna Ng  
Children's Pastor

You are invited to  
2020 Children's and Family Christmas Programs

Date	Time	What	Description	Zoom
Sun, Dec. 13	3 – 4 pm	Family Worship	Interactive Worship & Sunday School for preschoolers & their parents.	Meeting ID: 952 9376 6935 Passcode: 021511
	4:15 – 4:45 pm	Preschool Parents chat	Come and catch up with other parents and leaders!	
		Fitness for children	Physical exercise	
	5 – 6:15 pm	Family Worship	Interactive Worship & Sunday School for children ages 6 & up.	
Sat, Dec 19	7:30 -9:00 pm	<b>Movie: “The Star”</b> Animation, adventure, comedy	A small but brave donkey and his animal friends become the unsung heroes of the first Christmas.	Meeting ID: 491 059 8103 Passcode: ecbc
Sun, Dec 20	10 am & anytime after	Joint Worship	Join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ as a family in Cantonese, Mandarin, and English.	<a href="https://youtu.be/hA-zTiq4gUg">https://youtu.be/hA-zTiq4gUg</a>
Tue, Dec 22	10 - 11 am	<b>Cooking with Karine</b>	Meatloaf Cups and Yogurt Pesto Dip	Meeting ID: 491 059 8103 Passcode: ecbc
	2 – 3 pm	<b>Baking with Ivana</b>	Come bake festive sugar cookies with us. See the list of ingredients at the back.	
Wed, Dec 23	7:30 – 9 pm	<b>Teachers Appreciation &amp; “Concert for Jesus”</b>	Turn in your video by <b>Dec 13</b> to Pastor Hanna Ng’s WhatsApp: 780-720-7297. Helena Wong, Katherine Wai, Cristy Lam	
Thu, Dec 24	3 pm	<b>Crafts with Yivana</b>	Let’s make Christmas Ornaments.	
Sun, Dec 27	See above	Preschool and Children’s Worship		Meeting ID: 952 9376 6935 Passcode: 021511
Tue, Dec 29	1-2 pm	<b>Baking with Karine</b>	Raisin Banana Bread Pudding	Meeting ID: 491 059 8103 Passcode: ecbc
	2 pm	<b>Dance with Lydia</b>		
Wed, Dec 30	3 pm	<b>Crafts with Yivana</b>	Let’s make a cute “Yarn Hat Ornament”	
Thu, Dec 31	2 pm	<b>Dance with Lydia</b>		
Sat, Jan 2	5 – 6 pm	<b>Karaoke and reading</b>	Send Pastor Hanna Ng your song requests! Text (780)720-7297 with your YouTube karaoke link!	Meeting ID: 491 059 8103 Passcode: ecbc
Sun, Jan 3 & every Sunday	See above	Preschool and Children’s Worship		Meeting ID: 952 9376 6935 Passcode: 021511