

As stated in the By-laws, the Church Board (CB) convenes meeting monthly to discuss all matters relating to church ministries, governance, finance, and administration. The CB also looks into questions and comments received from the congregations and reacts accordingly.

In the past, a CB Meeting Summary which captured the salient points of CB decisions would be published in the church's bulletin. As it would take 2 meetings in 2 months to table the subject for discussion and approval of the minutes, the information in the CB Meeting Summary would become untimely and irrelevant when it is published.

A decision was made by the CB that a newsletter is to be issued for better communication. The Newsletter has no fix issue date and will be issued when needed.

The content of the newsletter will encompass major decisions made by the CB, and addressing inquiry received from the church at large or individual. It is hoped that the newsletter will try keep everyone update on development of the church.

ITEMS:

1. Suggestion to reinstate two Cantonese Sunday Services on Sunday Worship

With the outbreak of Covid in March 2019, government has shut down all the physical gatherings of the church and thereby, our church went worship online. As the Covid restriction relaxed, the Cantonese Sunday Service has been conducting in hybrid form, both in person at church and online at home.

With more people coming to worship in person at church, there were voices of reinstating two Cantonese services on Sunday which we were having before the pandemic.

The CB has studied and discussed the issue and came up with the decision of maintaining one Cantonese service for the time being for the following reasons:

A) While the seating capacity of the sanctuary is 230, the average number of persons attending the Cantonese service in the past 3-4 months was around 130. If we are going to split them into two services, it would just be a handful of people gathering affecting the worship atmosphere in a negative way. The number itself is not big enough to support two Cantonese services for the time being. Moreover, the side chapel is available to accommodate an additional 30-40 people as a backup when the sanctuary is fully utilized.

B) The CB needs to look at the needs of all ministries, Cantonese, English and Children. There are Sunday Schools and English Worship and the Children Worship after the Cantonese Worship. There will be coordinating problems if we add one more service into the existing schedules. We

need to consider a comprehensive approach to make all services and ministries complimenting each other while working on their own.

C) The resources in AV, Music and Worship Departments will need to be doubled for two services if we are to conduct two Cantonese services. Currently we don't have yet these resources.

The CB keeps monitoring the situation and are ready to evaluate and implement changes when needed. We pray that God will continue to bring more people into our church.

2. Church Mortgage

In view of the increasing trend of the mortgage interest rate (from 5.9% in February to 8.15% in March 2023), the CB approved a one-time payment of \$50,000.00 to reduce the amount of mortgage and the interest payment. The CB has also approved to transfer \$20,000.00 from RBC to Canadian Conference of MB Churches Saving Account which offers higher interest rate (5.0%) and more flexible in withdrawal.

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