

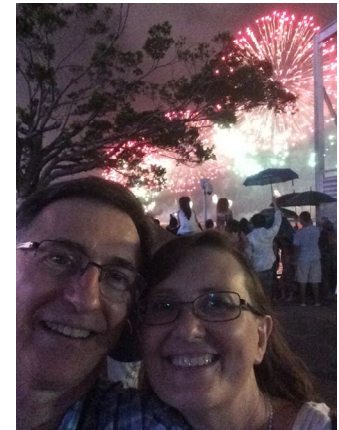


# Hadfield Happenings

August 2017

## A little bit of history, a little bit of politics and a **HUGE** prayer point

Hong Kong was a British Colony that was handed back to China in July 1997, with the agreement that for 50 years it would be a Special Autonomous Region (SAR) as part of one Country two systems. This means that Hong Kong has different laws and freedoms to mainland China, including religious freedom.



In July this year, Hong Kong celebrated (?) 20 years of China's leadership.

Over the past 20 years, China has been introducing and implementing laws and governance that brings Hong Kong into line with mainland China. For many in Hong Kong, this causes great concerns as they see their freedoms slowly changing. But we can still send open prayer letters to you without fear of consequences.

**BUT** for two weeks last month, two Chinese Government officials attended our Mandarin Services and informed Sok Han the minister, that Children under the age of 18 are not allowed to be instructed in religion in China (and so by implication, not in Hong Kong either). We discovered that this has been happening in other Mandarin speaking churches here in Hong Kong. But this has not happened in Cantonese nor English language Services (yet !).



Sok Han and the Mandarin Children's Ministry

Hong Kong needs the commitment of your prayers now and over the next 30 years; that religious freedom will not be eaten away and children will continue to be able to learn about Jesus from the bible. So let us tell you about the Children and Youth Ministries at St Andrews.



### Youth Ministry

We have a new Youth Director - Ryan Rudolf who has arrived from South Africa with his American wife Dawn.

Ryan with girls from the local Anglican School

Charles from the UK works alongside Ryan to run the Sunday Youth Programs for the 9:30 and 11:30 Services, our Friday Youth Night and evangelistic opportunities working with Schools that visit St Andrews as an historic building.

Please pray for a softening of the hearts of our Youth. Many attend only because of their parents' expectations. Pray that these young people will realise the privilege that they have to learn about Christ. Pray for Ryan as he sets the tone for learning in an environment where he can communicate God's active love.



Carol

### Children's Ministry

St Andrew's has a very large and active Children's Ministry with both our English and Mandarin speaking congregations. The English ministry is directed by Carol Strydom, also from South Africa, with Rebecca from Malaysia and Arlene from the Philippines.

At the moment we are running a Summer (July-Aug Northern Hemisphere) Kidzone (Sunday School for 9:30 and 11:30 Services) where Narelle has been involved in teaching the bible and leading small groups.

In July, we held a week long holiday club for 100 awesome kids called High 5. At the end of the week, the children performed and gave gifts to 120 people from 3 homes for the elderly. The children learnt of God's act of salvation for his people in the Exodus pointing to God's greater act of salvation in Jesus.



Narelle Teaching about Rahab and the Spies

### Praise God;

- For the freedom that we have to share the gospel and to teach the bible to children and youth here in Hong Kong
- For the staff that are committed to leading and directing our children and youth ministries; Ryan, Charles, Carol, Rebecca and Arlene.
- For the opportunities to share Jesus over Summer at Kidzone and High 5.

### Pray to God;

- That religious freedom in Hong Kong would not be eroded.
- For the political leadership of Hong Kong
- That God would soften the hearts of our Youth and that they would understand the great privilege that they have to be taught Christ
- That he would continue to raise up the many volunteer leaders needed for our Youth and Children's programs

Even though we were supported by our church in Hong Kong, CMS has costs in providing for our pastoral and prayer support. Please support CMS by joining and so supporting gospel work in the world [www.cms.org.au](http://www.cms.org.au)

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