

Pastor's Corner

by Pastor April Pun
June 21, 2009

Many places in the Bible talk about God showing His glory so that His people can come to Him and worship Him. In Old Testament times God appeared to His people and lived among them to draw them close to Him. In New Testament times Jesus Christ as the Word became flesh to live among us (John 1:14). The prophet Habakkuk received the oracle from God and proclaimed that "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Hab. 2:14). God shows His glory to His people with a purpose -- He desires us to draw close to Him and worship Him. The Bible teaches us that real worship is to worship the Father in spirit and truth (John 4:24). And the worship that pleases God is to worship with all our hearts and with all our souls.

Each week as we come to the church to worship God we enjoy a smooth worship service and sing beautiful songs together. These are a result of the hard-work of our brothers and sisters serving in WMAM (Worship Music and Arts Ministry).

Do you know that there are many different teams in the WMAM? It includes Music Team, Audio Visual Specialization Team, Powerpoint Team, Drama Team, Dance Team, and Visual Arts Team. The leaders of each team formed the WMAM committee to lead the WMAM ministry. The committee meets periodically to manage the worship ministry according to the church direction and pastoral instruction. They are here to help the congregation enter into worship through music and arts. They actually are the helpers for pastors as they lead people into worshipping God.

We will have a WMAM worship Sunday on 7/12 (7/26 for English Worship) and we will distribute a survey at that time. Please let us know if you are interested in serving in one of the teams. As the pastor overseeing the WMAM ministry, it is my hope that you come and join us in worship. Let us shout for joy to the LORD. Let us worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Let us enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.

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潘粵珊傳道
二零零九年五月三日

聖經中許多的經文，強調神彰顯自己的榮耀。在舊約時代，神主動地顯明在人的面前，也住在人當中，吸引他們來親近祂。到了新約時代，主耶穌道成肉身，成為人住在我們當中（約1：14）。先知哈巴谷也預言在不久的將來，『認識耶和華榮耀的知識要充滿遍地，好像水充滿洋海一般』（哈2：14）。神喜悅我們來親近祂、敬拜祂。聖經教導我們，真正的敬拜，是以神為中心，用『心靈與真理』的敬拜（約4：23），而討神喜悅的敬拜，乃是盡心、盡性、盡力、全人投入的敬拜。今天我們來到神的家（教會）跟其他神的兒女一同來敬拜，是多麼的美好，是討神喜悅的。在敬拜的整個儀式中，牧師傳道是以証道的方式領人進入神的同在，而敬拜隊是以音樂帶領會眾敬拜，有時也以舞蹈和話劇幫助人進入以神為中心的敬拜中。我們可以看見，其實，敬拜隊是與牧者配搭同工，一同帶領會眾敬拜神。

我們教會的敬拜事工稱為『敬拜音樂和藝術事工』Worship Music & Arts Ministry, 簡稱WMAM。敬拜音樂和藝術事工其實包括了好幾個不同的隊伍：有各堂的敬拜隊(Music Teams), 有音響視覺專門領域隊(Audio Visual Specialization Team), 簡報圖形製作控制隊(Powerpoint Team), 話劇隊(Drama Team), 舞蹈隊(Dance Team), 及視覺藝術隊(Visual Arts Team)。每一隊的領隊組合成的委員會，每年幾次聚在一起，根據教會的方向，也配合牧者的帶領來商討安排敬拜事工。

其實，當大家每個主日來到教會，能夠有順暢的敬拜，有美好的音樂，是整個敬拜事工隊付出了很多時間和心力來安排和練習所得出的結果（當然也有其他的弟兄姐妹的付出和配搭，如教會辦公室同工、招待同工等等）。感謝神將各樣的恩賜賞賜給我們，給我們教會的弟兄姐妹有彈琴的、歌唱的、跳舞等等的恩賜。或者你也有其中的恩賜和興趣。很快就到7/12日WMAM敬拜主日，我們將會讓弟兄姐妹填寫一份問卷，若是你願意加入WMAM 跟我們一起同工服事，請讓我們知道，我們會與你聯絡。

作為敬拜音樂和藝術事工的監管牧者，我邀請你參與我們的事工，讓我們一同來敬拜神、向神歡呼。我們當樂意事奉耶和華神，當來向祂歌唱！當稱謝進入祂的門；當讚美進入祂的院。當感謝祂，稱頌祂的名！