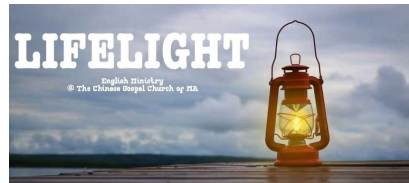


# English Ministry

Paster Eric Sandberg



God has been faithful and kind to our English congregation in 2022. Two years since the shutdown of '20, we are still experiencing the long term effects of the challenges of 2020.

God's grace through His Spirit has been working to provide our congregation everything that we need to grow in godliness. It is our sincere hope, that regardless of how long we are restricted from meeting in person "like normal", that our relationship among our congregation members will continue to grow as we meet online.

Even though it has been two years since the shutdown of '20, we are still experiencing the long term effects of the challenges of 2020.

As we approach the end of the year and look forward to how God will work in our congregation in 2023 we are hoping to center ourselves around the church's theme of "A New Thing".

The English congregation will be pursuing this "New Thing" through the application of its vision and mission statement:

## **Experience and Embody the Love of God**

3 Dimensional Ways: Up, Across, Out

All that we do is to reflect what we believe about who Jesus is, The Son of God, Savior of the World. We want to press on or strain ahead to live lives that are pleasing to Him and tell others about His amazing love.

As God's love reaches out to us, we respond by reaching back up to Him in faith, worship, love, and obedience.

We also reach out to our fellow brothers and sisters in the Church to encourage and grow in love and unity through continued regular meetings, Scripture studying, prayer and spending time together.

Finally, we seek to "strain ahead" in obedience to Jesus by "reaching out" to those outside the church walls.

In the upcoming year, we think especially of how God has called the church to care for his "protected class of people" as an opportunity to reach out to those in physical need (refugees, the poor, immigrants).

Whether it is through showing love to our literal neighbors next door, or even those who God brings into our lives who are different than us, our goal is to show how God's love has changed us and that making Him known is our "one thing" theme from '22 in a "new way" to live out the '23 theme.

### **Summary of 2022**

2 of our English Congregation family members, Zhenmin Liang and Richard Smith became members of CGCM.

### **Friday Fellowship**

We continuous to meet online to discuss various books/letters of Bible as well as other theological themes.

*Race and The Gospel,*

*Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, The Resurrection, and Mission of the Church*

*Immerse: New Testament Reading*

### **Sunday Morning**

To help us experience the love of God we will read, sing, pray, and hear God's Word in both the Old and New Testament in our Sunday morning gatherings.

We do this to show the Bible is one unified story of God's love for this World and His promise to restore our relationship with Him, each other, and the whole creation through the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus.

### **Sermons**

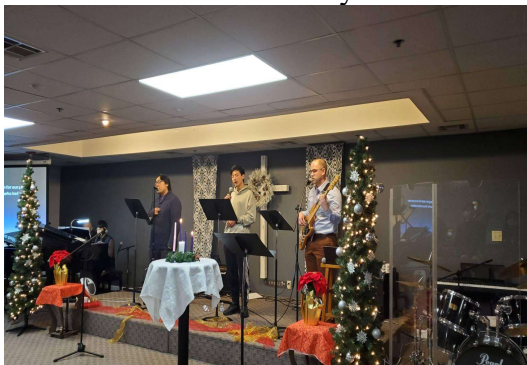
Galatians

Ephesians

Philippians

Colossians

Sermon Discussion Sunday School



## **Get Togethers**

The English congregation began monthly/bimonthly get togethers in local parks to spend time together, enjoy the beautiful weather and to have a way to invite our friends to our church gatherings.



## **College Get Together**

Dinner

Mini Golf



## **Young Adult**

A group of Young Adults in the English Congregation started to meet together to begin a Bible reading and discussion program called “Immerse”. It’s been a fantastic time to get to know each other better and grow in our understanding of God’s word.

Before Christmas, some of our group met at the APEX center in Marlboro for dinner and Axe Throwing!



## **ECCO (English Compassionate Community Outreach)**

To fulfill the “vision” of the English Ministry to “Experience and Embody the Love of God”

ECCO exists to live out the Church’s role in the Great Commission’s call to make and grow disciples.

ECCO seeks to equip members to embody a “reconciled life” through Christian love to “disadvantaged individuals and communities”

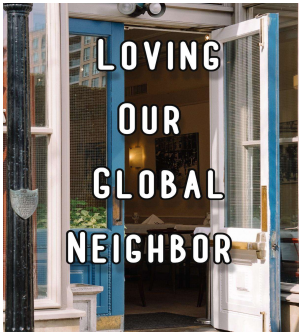
We seek to live out the ethics of the Kingdom of God by caring for people who could be classified as the ‘least of these’.

In doing so we are living and embodying the incarnational love of God in obedience to the “Great Commandment”: To love God and love our neighbor as ourselves.

“We want to love our neighbor not primarily to convert our neighbor, but because we have been converted and are now walking in obedience—even if our neighbor never converts or wants to hear about our faith or the hope that we have”  
K.J. Hill, *No Longer Strangers*

### Loving Our Global Neighbor

Refugee care groups composed of members of all congregations to help recent refugee families adapt to life in America.



### Feed My Starving Children

Families from all congregations joined together in the first FMSC Mobile pack since the pandemic. We helped pack enough food to feed 300 children for a year!

