



English Sunday Service June 30, 2024

Call to Worship: Tyler Jing

Scripture Passage: John 20:26-31

Scripture Reader: Nathan Wen

Prayer: Jeffrey Zhu

Message: The Authority of Scripture: Eyewitnesses

Speaker: Pastor Josiah Tse

Doxology

Announcements: Wilson Young

***WORSHIP GOD THE FATHER IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST
THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Our church has fully transitioned into in-person worship, and we invite all to join us at our church location. For those who still cannot attend in-person worship, we still offer in-sync Zoom online, as well as a YouTube recording for viewing afterwards.
2. The church office will be closed on Monday, July 1st for the Canada Day holiday. Pastoral staff will have their replacement holiday on Tuesday, July 2nd.
3. ECB News flash (June 18th)
 - a. Food Fundraising Event for Afghan refugee Noori family on July 1st “Canada Day community event”. We welcome all of you to participate. We are inviting all skilled brothers and sisters from each congregation to showcase their culinary talents by setting up food stalls and selling various homemade delicious dishes through ticket sales on that day. For more details, please contact Deacon Torrey Phua (416-526-5553).
 - b. Hiring temporary part-time custodian:
The church is hiring a temporary part-time custodian responsible for cleaning during the period of August 12th to September 7th. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Tim, mccc.timy@gmail.com .
4. Pastoral News:
Rev. Vincent Lee will be on holiday from June 28th to July 12th.
5. The church office part-time assistant, Kaman Cheng, will be on holiday from July 1st to August 8th.
6. For the story of Fatima Noori, MCCC sponsoring the Afghan family, please refer to the online version of the bulletin insert.
7. For security reasons we would like to ask all Zoom Attendees to put their full name on display for identification purposes to allow the Zoom master to safely let you in.
8. For instructions on how to set up an online offering donation, please visit our website www.mccc.on.ca .

Prayer

A: World & Mission

- 1/ Continue to pray for peace between Ukraine and Russia and for the safety of civilians.
- 2/ Please pray for peace and de-escalation of violence in Gaza and Israel. engagement.

B: Neighboring Community

1/ Pray for our congregation to continue to grow in maturity and love for one another and the community. May God continue to use us to expand His Kingdom by the power of His Spirit and the Word.

C: Church Community

1/ Our congregations:

- Pray for our missionaries, Pastor Henry & Wendy who are furloughing in Toronto this year.
- Pray for J and A as they begin their new kingdom work.
- Pray for the church's continued fellowships in-person and usage of online resources. Pray that we will grow together in faith and love for the glory of God.
- Pray for our missionaries whom our church has adopted:
Rev. Tan Yone & Susan Cha (Myanmar), Doris Lui-yee (Temporarily Stationed in Canada), Rev. Colin McCartney (Toronto), Pastor Peter & Elaine Yoon (Indonesia), Pastor Gilman Ho (AFC), Pastor Louis & Felain Lam (Germany), Rev. C.Y. Yan (Ontario), Rev. John & Karen Loh (Mexico), and Rev. Derek & Chantal Chen (New Guinea), NEXT project (Power to Change), Alliance Global Serve Canada, Hudson Taylor Centre (Tyndale Seminary), Xiao Dan Gang (CBM), Sam & Linda Ling (Interserv)

2/ English Ministry Needs:

- Pray for our summer ministries as we engage with the community through the summer day camps and outreach events. Pray that God will use our church for the spreading of the Gospel.
- Continue to pray for the health and spiritual growth of all of our families with young children.

<u>Fellowship/ Ministry Activity</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Information</u>
Youth 144 (Grade 6-12)	Summer Break!	Will Resume Regular Meetings in September. Please refer to announcement for special gatherings in the summer.
Adelphoi (Young Adults)	July 2 nd Tuesday @ 7:30pm	Praise and Prayer Session
Elijah (Career and Young Families)	July Gathering @ Alvin and Tammy's House	Refer to WhatsApp Group for Announcements
Emmanuel (Families)	July	Refer to WhatsApp group for confirmation
Thursday Night Prayer Meeting	Thursday nights @ 7:30pm	Contact Pastor Josiah for Zoom Link.

ACEM:

1. The ACEM conference has been held on June 23 and approved:

- a) ACEM Audited Statements for 2023;
- b) Appointment of Stephen P.F. Chui Professional Corp. to audit the 2024 ACEM audited financial statement.
- c) Appointment of Rev. Sam Chan and Fred Ngai as additional council members from June 23, 2024 to the next AGM in 2025;
- d) The 2025-2026 ACEM Council members;
- e) The renovation of ACEM office.
- f) The transfer of a maximum of \$200,000 General Fund to the Mission Fund as the cash flow buffer when needed, effective immediately to November 24, 2024.

2. Total 2024 Missions Budget \$2,144,602

January to May: Missions Fund Required \$893,584

Missions Fund Received \$613,513

Missions Fund Shortfall (\$280,071)

3. ACEM office will be closed for renovation from July to September 2024. During the renovation, all the ACEM staff will work from home and can be reached by phone or email. Please visit the ACEM website: www.acem.ca for the contact information.

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The Schedule of a hybrid in-person and live stream services:

Cantonese Service: 9:15 am (In-person and Zoom)

Mandarin Service: 11:15 am (In-person and Zoom)

English Service: 11:15 am (In-person and Zoom)

Children / Youth Sunday school: 9:15 am & 11:15 am (In-person only)

Cantonese Congregation Sunday Service Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87262410460?pwd=SDRrKzZrV1U2R3FtcFRWRnZvUFFiQT09>

Meeting ID: 872 6241 0460

Passcode: 123456

Mandarin Congregation Sunday Service Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86869313460?pwd=RE05bEorTTJlcmZiS2FKc0pMTE1EQT09>

Meeting ID: 868 6931 3460

Passcode: 100100

English Congregation Sunday Service Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86388395934?pwd=ZDM0NIBtUDI4WTRMOFBRYUIvVXdvQT09>

Meeting ID: 863 8839 5934

Passcode: 123123

OUR PASTORAL TEAM:

Founding Pastor: Rev. John Kao

Cantonese Lead Pastor: Rev. Vincent Lee mccc.vincentl@gmail.com ext. 233

Cantonese Part-time Pastor: Pastor Sam Wong samwong13712@gmail.com

Mandarin Lead Pastor: Rev. Luke Xie mccc.lukex@gmail.com ext. 288

Mandarin Pastor: Pastor Katherine Chi mccc.kkchi@gmail.com ext. 266

English Pastor: Pastor Josiah Tse mccc.josiaht@gmail.com ext. 299

Youth Ministry: Pastor Farrah Ng mccc.farrahn@gmail.com ext. 244

Children Ministry: Rev. Timothy Yuen mccc.timy@gmail.com ext. 255

Office: millikenchristianchurch@gmail.com ext. 222 /277

Noori Family



I am Fatima Noori from the Daikundi province of Afghanistan in, I was born in a Muslim family in March 24th, 1995. I have two children (Emran Noori 12 years old and Artin Noori 4 years old). As I was brought up in a Muslim family in Afghanistan, I did not have any rights to decide for myself and my future, that is why I was forced to marry my cousin at the age of 13 in Daikundi, Afghanistan in the year 2008, the marriage was against my well, and desire.

My first husband (Musa Ali) was 10 years older than me; he was a strict Muslim as he did not let me to study the profession I was interested in; he also used to do not let me keep in touch with my family and friends. He used to beat me all the time, and that is why when my family found out that I had been facing constant domestic violence, they helped me to get my divorce from him after one year of our marriage.

After that I had been staying in my father's home, until I moved to Kabul to stay with my aunt in October 2010. I started going to high school in Kabul, Afghanistan. It was during my high school studies that I met a young man in Kabul in January 2011, we felt in love with each other, and then we secretly got married in November 2011, we got married without informing our parents and other family members, because my parents wanted to give me to someone that they would like, someone who could give them a lot of money. I got pregnant from my second husband, and it was difficult for me to hide my marriage from my family, I told them that I loved someone and I wanted to marry him, but my parents and cousins told me that he will

kill me if I get married to that person. My husband's family also did not want him to marry a divorced woman who was not a virgin. Since I already married that person and I was pregnant from him, I and my husband decided that I should escape from my aunt's home and live in a different part of the city. So, we moved to the west part of the city, Kabul, and I stayed with my husband. I also continued my education. But my husband's parents never accepted me, and I was living with my husband alone, but I was happy that I had him in my life, and I did care that I was rejected by my and his parents.

My first son was born, our life was going well, I finished my high school and went to college, and things had been going well, until my father and cousins found my location in west Kabul and they threatened us that if I do not leave my husband, they will kill me, or lodge a complaint against me that I and my husband escaped an got married without the consent of my parents, this act was punishable by the government of that time, and there was a 3 years imprisonment for that.

Since, I did not want to divorce my husband, and I knew that I could be arrested, therefore I left my college studies, my husband helped me and my child to escape to India in December 2016.

There was also another reason from escaping from Afghanistan, as during my one year of college studies, I was introduced to Christianity by my classmate (Yahya), I believe in Jesus, and I used to attend worship meetings at his home secretly, my husband knew about this and he did not have any problem. So, I was afraid that if my parents complain against me, I could be arrested by the police, and they could easily find that I was a Christian, and then they would sentence me to life imprisonment, as that is the punishment for a female convert.

On December 13th, 2016, I, and my older son, left our hide out at 8:00am, we took a taxi for 500 (Afghan Currency) to the Kabul International Airport, we arrived to the airport at 8:30am, after passing the security and passport check up, we took our flight at

10:00am, we paid 19122 (Afghan Currency) for our air ticket, our flight (Ariana Airlines) took 2 hours, and we arrived in Delhi at 1:00pm local time, we shared a taxi with a family from the Indra Ghandi Airport to a guesthouse in Ashram, New Delhi where I stayed for a while before I move to a rental apartment. After my arrival to Delhi, I applied for asylum with the UNHCR Office in New Delhi.

My husband changed his location in Kabul, he did not come with me, because he had some business there. He used to send me money every month, so that I can survive financially in New Delhi, India. He also used to come to visit me and our son time to time. I also found an Afghan church in New Delhi, and started attending to the church, I was very happy with my life, though life was not easy as a refugee in India.

Unfortunately, when my husband went back to Kabul, Afghanistan after visiting us in February 2020, he got killed in a suicide bombing attack in Kabul, Afghanistan. It was the worst nightmare that I had, I lost my everything, I was a widow with a small kid and pregnant a second time (our second son), who was rejected both by my parents and my husband's parents. I wanted to finish my life, but I could not do it because of my children. I even could not go to my husband's funeral, I found his parent's phone number, I called them to tell them that I and his two children are in India, but they told me that I was a cursed woman, and they blamed me for the death of their son, because they thought I was a cursed woman. My second son was born after the death of his father in July 2020.

Soon, I realized that I will not be able to pay my apartment rent and to feed my two sons, I did not know what to do. Some people offered me money, and they promised that they will take care of me, but they wanted to misuse me sexually.

Fortunately, our church helped me to stay at one of their educational centers with my children, where I do not need to pay any rent, and they also provide me food. They also gave me a job that I make handicrafts, that helps me to cover our small expenses.

I am a mother of two kids, who cannot return to Afghanistan because I am a Christian convert, and also because I married with my husband without the consent of my parents, both acts are punishable by life imprisonment, or stoning to death. I cannot support my kids as refugee in India, if the educational center is closed, then we will be on the street. Life as a young widow is very risky and difficult in India, many people offer money for sex, that I hate it.

I thank God that the Afghan Church of the GTA heard about my situation, and they decided to sponsor me through the Private Refugee Sponsorship Program.

I kindly request you to please save my life and the lives of my two children, as we are at risk in India and we cannot return to Afghanistan because they will kill us. There is no durable solution for us in India, so we kindly request you to please have mercy on us, and help us to be resettled in Canada, where we will have safety, freedom, a chance to study, work hard, and the assurance that our lives will be protected. Thanks for your help and understanding.

Fatima Noori