



Elders Update

#1: May, June 2008

Dear brothers and sisters who are committed to serve in ABMC,

The Lord is gracious to us. He helped us launched ABMC on May 4, 2008. On June 1, 2008 we started the Mandarin and the Cantonese worship at 9:30 PM and 11:30 PM respectively. We all want to offer our very best for His service. We offer our hearts and minds willingly and fully for He is worthy.

ABMC is to be led by spiritual leaders, i.e. Elders, consistent with the biblical teaching. In order to avoid the pitfalls of our previous bad experiences, all Elders shall have a term limit of maximum of 6 years, and cannot serve as ruling Elders for at least 3 years thereafter. They have to select with discernment, train and appoint new Elders. In addition the Elders shall take the initiative to communicate with brothers and sisters of the church major issues that are in their prayers, considerations, deliberations and decisions. Of course confidential matters will not be disclosed. The Elders will encourage and welcome fellowship in private or public with any member of the church.

But the most important ministry operation and decision is at the Congregation Ministerial Committee level. Whether new people would be welcomed, care for, nurtured and brought into the saving grace of God depends on all of you to provide leadership in the Committee and devoting yourself for the pleasure of God.

Launching of ABMC is a happy but busy event. We now can start focusing and taking care of church business. This is the first of many regular updates from the Elders Board. Since we have just got started with few people, the founding

Trustees Board and the Elders Board shall meet together on a monthly basis for now. The Trustees/Elders Board met on June 7 to deliberate and has reached consensus on many issues. We are attaching the latest draft of the ABMC Constitution and By Laws. The following abstracts are from the first Board meeting:

1. Approved the latest draft of the ABMC Constitution and By Laws and will circulate it to those who are committed to ABMC for comments until the end of June. Final draft is to be approved by the Board at the next meeting in July.
2. Approved a 3-weekly baptismal/membership class which shall commence in September for new believers. CMO shall prepare class material and membership documents.
3. Ordination of Elders, installation of Deacons, appointment of the Ministerial Committee Members, acceptance of Founding Church Members and the baptizing of new believers shall be held during a Sunday Service around end of September or early October.
4. Approved Board of Trustee and Officers: Winston Ko as President, Freda Cheung as Treasury, and Johnny Chan as Secretary.
5. Approved Board of Elders: Winston Ko as Chairman of Elder Board and Rev. Wang Dong.
6. Approved that Rev. Dong Wang who was ordained in 2000 by Rev. Fred Cheung at CBMC shall be the pastor of ABMC on a voluntary basis. Rev. Wang will preach regularly at the Mandarin worship.
7. Cantonese Worship started on June 1. Winston is responsible for arranging speakers for the pulpit.
8. ABMC shall give honorariums at the high end of normal range. The range shall be from (confidential info) subject to future amendment.

10. Rev. Wang and Johnny Chan shall set up the Ministerial Committee of Mandarin and Cantonese Congregations, respectively, and shall report to the next Board meeting.
11. Johnny starts organizing a leadership team from both Mandarin and Cantonese young people for ECC outreach to new college students.
12. Financial reports:
 - a. special ABMC start-up funding donation covers all start up expenses,
 - b. 5-4 to 6-7 offering exceeds operation expenses by ~\$5k,
 - c. Earthquake donation to China is \$4,428.
 - d. security deposit for summer conference and church office is \$4,800
 - e. cash flow is positive.

All of you are to pray for guidance as to what ministry(s) the Lord wants you to lead or serve in. Use the intelligence and gifts God gave you, to think outside of the box, and be creative in serving our neighbors. Your joy comes from leading or help in bringing new people to Christ.

Blessings,

ABMC Trustees/Elders Board