

得著社區

Reaching the Community



Expansion Plan and Gospel Mission
擴建計劃與福音使命



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教會在增長

蒙神的帶領，我們於1982年成立了安城華人基督教會，並於2001年，購地建造了現在的教堂。這二十年來，神使用我們在安娜堡地區的華人中做福音工作，教會人數也有明顯的增長。目前，我們人數接近220人（成人約160人），第一期所建的8,200呎的建築物已不能滿足事工的需要。目前（在疫情發生前），週五與週六團契的人數，及週日成人主日學所需要的課室都受場地的限制。

在週五，恩典團契一直擁擠在兒童敬拜室裡聚會。5L2F也已經轉到大堂來聚會。而FaHolo在借用校園旁AACRC的場地。

在週六，愛家及小羊家庭分別在110室及兒童敬拜室，課室都顯得太小。同時，小羊的孩童們也有分班的需要；青少年使用大堂，但他們的分組也受場地的限制。

週日成人主日學的時段也出現需要。粵語主日學多年擠在110室中。每次開受洗轉會班時，我們只剩下牧師辦公室可以使用。



此外，我們教會一直沒有能一起聚集用餐的場地。

為此，教會幾年前成立了擴建委員會，為我們場地的需要做計劃。以下是我們擴建計劃的內容：

- ◆ 交誼廳/體育館（可容納200人用餐或250人聚會）
- ◆ 一個600-800平方尺的大廳（可作會前會後的交談場所）
- ◆ 6間教室（平均400平方尺，有兩間可合併成一間大教室）
- ◆ 兩間洗手間及預留一個電梯的空間
- ◆ 3千平方尺的地下室（作將來英文或粵語部所需的副堂）

Growing Church

Through God's guidance, Ann Arbor Chinese Christian Church was founded in 1982 and the current church building was built in 2001. Over the past 20 years, God has been using us to spread His gospel among the Chinese community in the Ann Arbor area and we have witnessed substantial growth in the size of our congregation. With the current congregation size approaching 220 (approx. 160 adults), the 8,200 sqft building can no longer satisfy the need of all our ministries. Presently (pre-COVID), the size of the building has been the bottleneck of the Friday and Saturday fellowships, as well as the Adult Sunday School classes.

On Fridays, Grace Fellowship has been using Children Worship Room, 5L2F Fellowship has moved to the sanctuary, and FaHoLo Fellowship has been renting part of AACRC next to U of M campus.

On Saturdays, Agape Fellowship and Young Family Fellowship have been using Room 110 and Children Worship Room, both being too small. Meanwhile, the children of Young Family Fellowship need several classrooms to accommodate their different age groups. Our Youth Group has been using the sanctuary but their freedom to split into small groups is also limited by the current space.

Similar gaps exist during Adult Sunday School time. For years, the Cantonese Sunday School Class has been crowding in Room 110. The Pastor's Office has long been the only available place to host Baptism/Membership classes.



Last but not the least, our church has always been lacking space for the entire congregation to dine together.

Therefore, the Building Expansion Committee was formed several years ago in an effort to address the need for more space. Below is our detailed expansion plan:

- Fellowship Hall/Gym (able to host 200 people for dining or 250 for gathering).
- A lobby approx. 600-800 sqft (fellowship area before or after the event)
- 6 classrooms (approx. 400 sqft each, 2 of them can be merged to make a larger classroom)
- 2 bathrooms as well as a reserved space for elevator
- A 3,000 sqft basement (for potential chapel for future Cantonese or English congregation)

社區在增長

要收的莊稼多，作工的人少。所以，你們當求莊稼的主
打發工人出去收他的莊稼。——路加福音 10:2

除了教會內部的需要增加以外，安娜堡華人社區也在增長中。根據美國人口局 2018 年的調查，我們安娜堡加上外圍 30 分鐘以內車程的城市，華人人口共有 16,014 人（圖一）。華人的口不但眾多，而且密集。集中在安娜堡地區的華人約有一萬二千人。其中除了一半是學生學者以外，還有 6 千人是長期定居的工作者及家屬。

另外，根據 2020 年市政府的資料，在 Plymouth Road 以北不同的社區中，共有 380 家以上的華人（圖二）。許多家庭離教會不到 10 分鐘的車程。近一兩年在 Dhu Varren Road 兩端新建的房子吸引了約 50 家的華人新住戶。

然而，基督福音的使命迫使我們不能只想到華人福音的需要，我們也必須顧到週圍各民族的需要。我們教會是安娜堡最北的區域性裡唯一的一間教會。神擺在我們眼前福音的禾場是何等的大。我們弟兄姐妹需要同心建立起中英文會眾各層面的事工。同時，我們更需要做好社區外展的福音工作，使萬民作主門徒。

Growing Community

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”—Luke 10:2

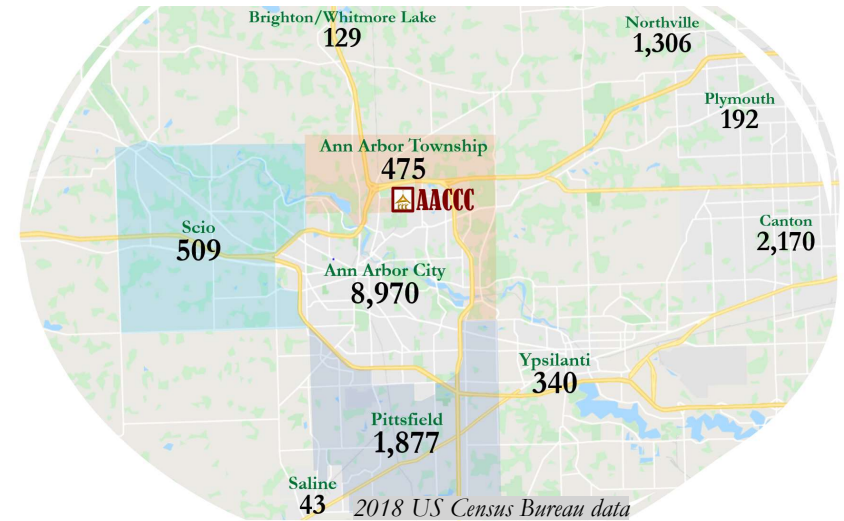
In addition to the increasing need from within the church, the Ann Arbor Chinese community has been growing as well. According to a survey of the US Census Bureau in 2018, a total of 16,014 Chinese people live within 30 minutes' drive from the City of Ann Arbor (Figure 1). The Chinese population is not only large in number, but also highly concentrated. Approx. 12,000 Chinese people live in the Ann Arbor Area, among which half are students and visiting scholars, and 6,000 are residents who live and work here together with their household.

In addition, according to the information from the city government in 2020, there are more than 380 Chinese households in various neighborhoods north to Plymouth Road (Figure 2). Many families are within 10 minutes' drive from the church. In the past couple of years, approximately 50 Chinese families have also moved into the newly constructed houses flanking the Dhu Varren Road.

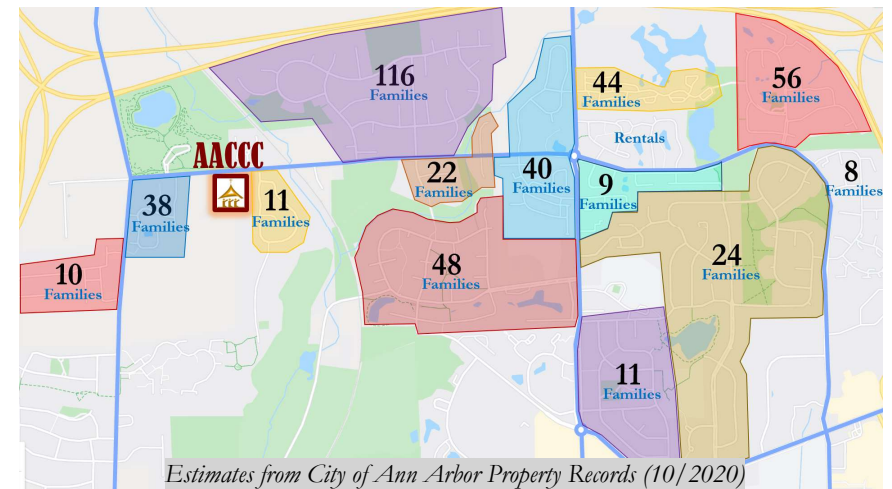
Furthermore, the Great Commission of Christ urges us to think beyond our fellow Chinese in terms of the need for gospel, we need to bear in mind

that the need for gospel applies all ethnic groups. Our church is the only church in the northmost part of Ann Arbor. What a vast gospel field God has placed in front of us! We need to have one mind in establishing various ministries for both Chinese-speaking and English-speaking congregations. Meanwhile, we need to emphasize more on outreaching to communities to make disciples of all people.

圖一：華人人口 Chinese population



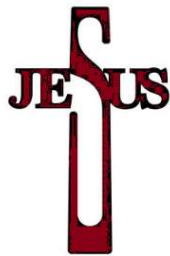
圖二：教會周圍的華人住戶 Chinese Households Near AACCC



福音需求在增長

隨著城市人口的增長，福音的需求也在增長。人的最大的需求從古至今都不變。事實中，所有男，女，老，少，無論任何種族，我們都是罪人，死在罪惡過犯之中，本當面對神忿怒的審判（弗 2:1-2）。各族各方的人都需要聽到基督死在十字架上為他們的罪而付代價的福音。每個人都需要接受基督為買贖我們而受死復活的救恩。

因此，基督教會的使命沒有改變。我們在基督裡的每一位，都負有基督福音的使命（太 28:19-20）。同時，我們也要裝備聖徒，使他們長大成熟，活出並傳揚基督（弗 4:11-16）。我們的目的不是為自己在本地建立一個美麗的教堂，而是靠著神的大能，忠於祂的話語，在基督裡的信心，愛心及盼望上得堅立，好讓主使用我們建造祂地上的教會，使人藉著我們能更清楚地看見祂的榮美。



Growing Need of the Gospel

The growing population of the city brings the growing need of the gospel. The biggest need of mankind has remained the same since ancient times till now. In fact, regardless of our gender, age and ethnicity, we are all sinners, dead in our sins and transgressions, facing destruction from God (Ephesians 2:1-2). Every people group from all over the world needs to hear the gospel that Jesus died on the cross as an atonement for our sins. Everyone needs to accept the salvation of Christ who died and resurrected so that we could be redeemed.

Therefore, the mission of Christ's church hasn't changed. Everyone in Christ is trusted with the mission to share the gospel of Christ (Matthew 28:19-20). At the same time, we need to equip the saints, so that they can grow and become mature, to live out His image and to proclaim His name (Ephesians 4:11-16). Our goal is not to build a magnificent church building in our neighborhood, but to rely on God's mighty power, to be faithful to His words, to build upon our faith, love and hope in Christ, so that the Lord will use us to establish His church on earth, and that His glory and beauty can be manifested through us to all.

我當如何禱告？

讚美：基督乃教會之首，祂的救贖大能充滿教會，並成就一切，超過我們所求所想的，叫祂在教會中得榮耀（弗 1:19-23; 3:16-21）。

認罪：求主審查我們的心，將我們在彼此的團契服事中隱而未現之罪顯露出來（弗 4:25-32），叫我們的心不注重罪孽（詩 66:18）。

祈求：

- 1) 求神賜我們本地福音的異象，為福音的使命而合一邁進。
- 2) 求神在真道上堅固我們，叫我們更深的認識基督，得以長大成人，滿有基督長成的身量（弗 4:13）。
- 3) 求神在擴建的過程中保守我們免於分化，幫助我們能夠彼此謙讓，（羅 12:10）不看自己過於所當看的（羅 12:3），並存心謙卑，各人看別人比自己強（腓 2:3-5）。
- 4) 求神賜我們信心信靠祂的供應。求神施恩使我們能凡事尊榮主，使眾人得見主的榮耀，叫祂因教會得榮耀及讚美。



How Shall I Pray

Adoration: Christ is the head of the church. He has filled the church with His great redemptive power. He has also accomplished everything among us, immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine, so that He would be glorified in church (Ephesians 1:19-23, 3:16-21).

Confession: Examine our hearts, O Lord! Reveal to us the hidden sins we have committed in our fellowship and our ministry (Ephesians 4:25-32), so that we will not cherish sins in our hearts (Psalm 66:18).

Supplication:

- (1) May God grant us vision and unity for local evangelism.
- (2) May God strengthen us in faith and in the knowledge of Christ, so that we may become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:13).
- (3) May God preserve our unity during the church building expansion, help us honor one another above ourselves (Romans 12:10), and do not think too highly of ourselves (Romans 12:3). Pray that we, in humility, value others above ourselves (Philippians 2:3-5).
- (4) May God grant us faith to trust in His provision. Pray for grace to honor God in all things, so that others may see His glory. May the Lord receive glory and praise through His church. Amen!

我可以做什麼？

無論我們在此地是長期居住，或只是一兩年，在我們腳踏之地必有神所託付的福音使命。我們可以做什麼？耶穌為我們留下榜樣：

耶穌出來，見有許多的人，就憐憫他們，因為他們如同羊沒有牧人一般，於是開口教訓他們許多道理。——馬可福音 6:34

1. **進入他人的世界**—耶穌出來，見有許多的人。我們也當願意出來，走進人群中，花時間與人交談及認識。
2. **了解人們的需要**—耶穌憐憫眾人如羊沒有牧人一般。我們要去認識人們的需要，並看見他們心靈真實的需求，且願意給予幫助。
3. **把耶穌帶給人們**—耶穌看見人的需要，就開口教導他們。我們也當開口傳講福音的真理，把耶穌帶進他人的世界中，讓耶穌帶來真滿足。
4. **與教會同心同工**—耶穌帶著門徒們一起同工，餵飽眾人。我們除了個人的行動，也當在神的家中同心參於此地的福音事工。



How Shall I Respond

Whether we are in Ann Arbor long term or just for a few months, God has a gospel mission for us at the place we set foot. How can we fulfill the mission? We can learn from Jesus' example below:

"And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things." — Mark 6:34

1. **Seek to enter into others' world** — Jesus came out of the boat and saw a great crowd. Likewise, we are to come out of our own world, seek to enter other people's world, and spend time to get to know them.
2. **Seek to understand** — Jesus had compassion because people were as sheep without a shepherd. Likewise, we are to see the people's felt need, seek to understand their actual need, and desire to meet the need.
3. **Seek to bring Jesus into the person's world** — Jesus saw the need and taught the people. Likewise, we are to speak and tell people about Jesus, bringing Jesus into their life.
4. **Seek to serve together in the Church** — Jesus had disciples working together to feed the crowd. Likewise, in addition to working alone, we are also to serve together in the local church to bring people to Christ.