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**Life at St Andrew's**

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# Vicar's Report

Preparing for St Andrew's 120th anniversary has given me the opportunity to hear many people's reflections and see lots of photos of our church over the years. Every person who has come through the doors of our church since 1906 has their own story of how God has led them here, taught them here, and grown them in Christ here. You have your own St Andrew's story.

In 1906, our church began with a few dozen people gathering for Sunday worship. In 2026, our average Sunday attendance is around 1600 people. Last November, we surveyed our church to get to know you better. We have a diverse church family, from different language backgrounds (about 65% Cantonese as first language, 20% English, and 10% Mandarin), living in different parts of HK (about 50% in Kowloon, 35% in the New Territories, and 15% on HK Island). We always welcome newcomers at St Andrew's, either investigating Christianity or looking for a new church home. About a third of people surveyed had been attending St Andrew's for 3 years or less, another third between 3-10 years, and another third for over 10 years. Around 85% of people have been baptised.

We're thankful to God for the many opportunities that we've had in the last year to proclaim the gospel of Jesus. Particular

highlights continue to be our popular Christmas and Easter services, when we welcome many people who don't ordinarily come to church. People exploring faith are also welcome to our evangelistic courses, including Christianity Explored and Hope Explored. Our Cantonese classes aimed at Mainland migrants continue to attract large numbers, sometimes up to 500 people in September and October. These classes are a wonderful opportunity to build relationships, share the gospel, and invite people to the Mandarin Alpha course.



**St Andrew's has changed in many ways over the years, but our purpose remains unchanged.**

Whilst St Andrew's is a diverse community, we call on anyone who calls St Andrew's their church home to make four common commitments: to regularly attend Sunday church, to join a Growth Group, to serve in at least one capacity either at church or with one of our mission partners, and to give regularly towards the ministry of the church. According to the survey, almost 80% of people attend church regularly,

40% are part of a Growth Group, 32% serve, and 42% give regularly (plus 37% irregularly). The survey also highlighted an important correlation: those who attend a Growth Group and serve are far more likely to have indicated that they're experiencing growth in their faith.

One of the many privileges of my role at St Andrew's is to see how God is growing people in their faith in Jesus. A person who's greatly encouraged me has been Pete. He's been at St Andrew's for three years, has been attending a Thursday men's group, serving as a leader in his group and also in prison ministry with Kun Sun Association. Pete has regularly met and encouraged other guys in faith, prayed for colleagues to know Jesus, and persevered during a difficult season in his life. There are many examples like Pete at St Andrew's – people who are intentional in their own spiritual walk and deliberate in encouraging others to grow in Jesus.

St Andrew's has changed in many ways over the years, but our purpose remains unchanged. Our church's vision is to be "a community devoted to Jesus Christ, who share his gospel, calling on people to follow him, and seek the flourishing of Hong Kong". My prayer as you read the following report is that you'll be encouraged in hearing what God has been

doing in our community, using ordinary people to do the extraordinary work of growing his church and building his kingdom; and that you'll prayerfully commit to our church's vision and your part in it.

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**Revd. Alex McCoy**

*Vicar*



# Discipleship

A Christian is a disciple of Jesus Christ. That means, having received Jesus' forgiveness and grace, we are to live a transformed life as we grow to become more like Jesus. We are to increasingly set aside the old way of life, characterised by darkness and sin, and put on the new life of Christ, filled with the fruit of the Spirit. None of us can do this alone. At St Andrew's, we are a community of disciples helping one another to grow in Christlikeness.

## Growth Groups

The worshipping life of St Andrew's centres on our Sunday services and it is a joy to meet with many other Christians. However, it is easy to be an anonymous attendee and for fellowship to remain shallow. Discipleship involves much more than just joining a Sunday service. This is where our Growth Groups come into the picture. These small group gatherings give us an opportunity to connect with other Christians more intimately, as we share life and enjoy fellowship, study the Scriptures, and pray together.

As well as a place to form deeper friendships, Growth Groups are the primary channel through which pastoral care is offered. These opportunities to care for one another, as well as serving alongside each other at church or with our mission partners, give us the space to live out authentic discipleship.

We have over 30 groups, most meeting weekly. There are groups for certain demographics: Oxygen for younger adults and Focus for university students, Home4U for migrant and domestic workers, as well as more general mixed and single-gender groups.

If you are not already part of a Growth Group, please do ask about joining one. This is the best way for us to grow as disciples together! Here are some brief details of the different groups we have:

## Oxygen

Oxygen, our young adults and university student's ministry, meet on Thursday evenings. As well as weekly meetings, there are plenty of opportunities to connect with others at a similar age and stage of life, including an annual weekend away. This year, the theme of the weekend was 'Friendship' as we considered how being a Christian radically shapes the way we engage in all our relationships.

## Home4U

Home4U is our community of migrant domestic workers—a safe and welcoming space, a home away from home on Sunday afternoons. Alongside the regular weekly activities, Home4U also runs skills training, monthly birthday celebrations, and great events and outings throughout the year.

# Discipleship

One highlight this year was the day at Water World that 40 of the ladies were able to share, with free tickets from Ocean Park. Most encouraging is their keen interest, eagerness, and participation in the Bible studies and prayer. We are thankful for the spiritual growth and fruit that we've seen—many are now serving in Kidzone and Welcome Teams.

## Women's Groups and Committee

Several women's groups meet regularly at various times in the week, enjoying fellowship and growing together. Alongside the regular pattern of Growth Group meetings, the Women's Committee organised several events, including the EQUIP Women's Conference, an outreach Christmas event, and a Women's Brunch.

## Men's Groups

On Thursday nights, a thriving men's fellowship shares conversation over pizza, enjoys Bible study, and is a source of mutual support and encouragement. There are also other opportunities to grow together, including a men's brunch and a hike (although that was sadly postponed due to bad weather).

## Courses and Programs

As well as ongoing support and training for those who lead our Growth Groups (thank you to all who serve in this way!), we run

various courses and programmes that are open to all church members, wherever we are on the journey of faith. Over the last year, we have covered a range of topics from prayer to unemployment, as well as offering a new five-week Foundations Course. Our monthly Partnership course continues to be the best place for those newer to the church to get involved and explore active membership of St Andrew's.

We also have the Ministry Apprentice Programme (MAP), which we run in partnership with several other English-speaking churches. We hope to continue to recruit for MAP and to be a church that trains and equips people for a lifetime of serving the church.

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## Rev. Leslie Siu

*Associate Minister (Discipleship)*



## Missions Ministry

At St Andrew's Church, we seek to encourage and equip our people to obey Jesus' call to be his witnesses in Hong Kong and beyond by proclaiming his gospel. We long to see members growing in confidence as witnesses to Christ and in joyful partnership with those engaged in gospel ministry locally and globally.

Over the past year, we have continued to promote evangelism through a range of courses and training opportunities. We ran two Alpha courses, two Christianity Explored courses, and one Hope Explored course, with around 200 people investigating Christianity through these courses. These have provided many opportunities for people to ask questions, explore the claims of Jesus, and hear the gospel in a clear and welcoming setting. Alongside this, we have sought to equip church members more intentionally for personal evangelism through two "Let's Talk Evangelism" courses, as well as an apologetics course called "Equipped to Respond," designed to help Christians give thoughtful, gospel-centred answers to difficult questions.

We are thankful to have twelve mission partners whom we support through financial giving, prayer, volunteering, and facility usage. We have also seen encouraging involvement in local mission partnership. Regular monthly volunteering has continued with Inner City Ministries, where a St Andrew's team helps run a Kids Club for Nepalese children; and with Kun Sun Association through visits to Lai Chi Kok Detention

Centre and Stanley Prison. Members have also taken part in the CEDAR Fund Barefoot Walk, Flag Days for mission partners, and the Peace Box appeal in partnership with the Hong Kong Church Network for the Poor. Following our Local Missions Fair in September and Annual Missions Fair in January, Growth Groups have volunteered with mission partners, including St Barnabas Society & Home, the Home of Loving Faithfulness, and Christian Action Centre for Refugees. A new monthly St Andrew's team has also begun serving at St Barnabas Society & Home among elderly residents. We also organised a wonderful mission trip in October to Malaysia with Epic Homes, to build a house for the indigenous poor.

There are many ways for you to get involved in God's mission through St Andrew's. Please find out more about our mission partners, pray for them, serve with them, and give towards their ministry. God also calls on us to share the reasons for the hope we have in Jesus with those around us. At St Andrew's, we often speak about "two-for-two" - pray for two people in your life for two minutes each day for them to know Jesus. See what God does in their life and how he uses you to share the hope offered in Jesus with them. Please pray that St Andrew's would keep growing as a church that both speaks the gospel clearly and lives it out with love.

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**Rev. James Hall**

*Assistant Minister (Missions)*



## Families Ministry

In our journey of growing to be more like Jesus, we move through different stages of life. What it means to follow Christ faithfully, how we serve in his gospel mission, and how we live for God's glory will naturally look different as our circumstances change.

Whether we are children, teenagers, young adults, single, married, raising families, or in our later years, God graciously provides unique opportunities for growth, service, and perseverance in every season.



**we give thanks for all  
that God has done**

Together with a committed team of volunteers, teachers, and leaders (including Carol, Elger, Arlene, Thea, and Juliana), our Family Ministry seeks to support and equip members of St Andrew's to follow Jesus through each stage of life. Alongside our regular Sunday teaching programmes, we ran a range of events this year, including a dating seminar, a parenting course with Rory Bell, the Marriage Refreshed event, and a seminar on "How to Be a Friend in Grief." We ended the year with our Christmas Carols by Candlelight and Campfire events, where many non-Christian friends and family members were warmly invited

to hear about Jesus. We also continue to serve in our affiliated schools (DGS and DGJS), teaching God's word in assemblies, supporting P.6 retreats, and engaging in parent events.

Yet our ministry is about more than running programmes or delivering content. We aim to train, encourage, and partner with our church family in gospel ministry. It has been deeply encouraging to see many members stepping up to teach regularly in Kidzone, Youth, and Silverzone, and others sharing personal insights and gospel wisdom in our relationship seminars. Our vision is to see every member equipped and confident to serve—both within church life and beyond—blessing others in their homes, classrooms, and everyday relationships.

As we give thanks for all that God has done this past year, we also look ahead with intention. Perhaps you might consider serving in the crèche, joining Kidzone or Silverzone, or investing in our youth. As we disciple others, may we continue to grow in Christlikeness and proclaim God's mighty works from one generation to the next (Psalm 145:4).

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**Jack Wong**

Associate Minister (Families)

# Children's Ministry

At Children's Ministries, we aim to partner with parents to help raise children in the knowledge and love of God. We do this by first building relationships with them to model Jesus' desire for a relationship with them, and then teaching them from the Bible in an age-appropriate way through games, crafts, songs, and Bible lessons.



**We are thankful for these times of sharing life through meals together.**

Highlights of the past year have all included sharing hospitality - yummy snacks at Morning Teas, classroom lunches in our church playground, and our Carols by Campfire BBQ. These events bring families and our church family together to connect on a deeper level. Creating memories together and doing life together, cheering each other on in the Lord, helps build resilience to continue to walk faithfully with him. We are thankful for these times of sharing life through meals together.

Another encouragement came on a cool winter afternoon, when a brother and sister were enjoying being back in our church playground. As a family, they had joined our

Friendship Garden Playgroup, Bus Caroling, and Christmas services over the years. These siblings had asked their non-Christian parents to come back to church for a visit. We were all delighted to be reunited. Although they are not yet believers, we see all the time how God draws people to himself through little children. Another non-Christian family has shown interest in joining our Sunday services starting after Easter, as they were curious and wanted their child, who also attends Friendship Garden, to learn about Jesus. What a blessing to see glimpses of God's work in this community outreach, which was started more than forty years ago!

We're so grateful for our volunteers who serve in Children's Ministry. If you are considering serving children, be prepared for energetic, curious, and impressionable children. If you love Jesus and want to help others know him too, I can't think of a better ministry to be involved in, as you help point little hearts to Jesus.

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**Carol Strydom**  
*Children's Ministry Director*



## Youth Ministry

St Andrew's Youth Ministry aims to foster a loving, safe environment where young people can encounter Jesus, grow in maturity through the study of Scripture, build meaningful friendships in discipleship groups, and serve one another and the wider body of Christ.

Looking back on the past year, we have many reasons to be encouraged. Youth consistently attend Friday Youth and are genuinely seeking to grow in their faith and build meaningful friendships. Several young people have expressed a desire to serve and get involved in the ministry, inviting friends and helping with activities. We also started a music team. The team meets every Thursday for practice, Scripture study, and to share challenges and encourage one another in their walk with Christ.



### Several young people have expressed a desire to serve

Our youth face significant stress from school, homework, and exams, and many prayer requests at the end of our gatherings are focused on exam-related stress. One Sunday, one of our regular attendees really

encouraged the leadership team. He had a concerned look on his face and said nothing when we took prayer requests. After our closing prayer, our leaders checked in with him to see if he was okay. He then asked for prayer for specific sins he was struggling with—sins that were affecting his desire to honour God. I was saddened by his struggle, but encouraged by his honesty and desire to pursue God. It was clear the Holy Spirit was convicting him, and he took his relationship with God seriously, more than his exams.

We have a great opportunity to shape the next generation, and the work is plentiful. We need faithful volunteers and leaders to support this ministry. If you are willing to walk alongside our youth and help them grow in their relationship with their Creator, please consider joining the Youth Ministry.

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**Elger Isaac**  
*Youth Ministry Director*

## Elderly Ministry

This ministry to senior adults is aimed at sharing the gospel, teaching the Bible, and building strong support and friendships in a Cantonese-speaking context. Silverzone meets every Sunday from 9.30am to 11am in the G/F Lounge. The average age is 80. We also have a Bible study group of eighteen people meeting on Tuesday mornings.

This past year has been fruitful, although not without its challenges. A number of members faced significant health struggles, and three were called home to the Lord. At the same time, we thank God for continued growth, with attendance increasing by 19% from the previous year. This has brought a “good problem” of space—we have moved from the 3/F Lounge to the G/F Lounge and are now at full capacity. Despite these trials, it has been deeply encouraging to see members growing in faith as they engage with Scripture, pray together, and support one another, experiencing God's mercy and goodness in their lives.

We have seen God at work in many personal ways. One member, in the final stage of her life, remained steadfast in her faith—listening daily to devotions and faithfully reading the Silverzone Bible memory cards until her last day. The Lord graciously granted her peace and relief from pain as she prayed. Her quiet trust in Christ was a powerful testimony, bringing comfort to her

family and to our community.

Another member, upon facing a recurrence of cancer, experienced God's provision in being led to a skilled specialist for surgery. Throughout her treatment, she has shared openly about God's guidance and the peace she has in Jesus. Through her witness, one friend has begun attending church with her family, and another has expressed interest in joining Silverzone.



### experiencing God's mercy and goodness in their lives

We have also been encouraged by the formation of a lay pastoral care team. It is a joy to see faith expressed in action, as members faithfully call, visit, and pray for those who are sick or in need, strengthening the bonds of our community.

We give thanks to God for our devoted leadership team, who serve wholeheartedly and tirelessly each week.

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**Juliana Wong**  
*Pastoral Worker (Elderly Ministry)*

## Welcome Ministry

The welcome we give is often the first expression of Christ's love people encounter as they walk through our doors each Sunday. With an average weekly attendance of around 1,600 people, we are thankful for a faithful team of around 120 welcome ministers serving across multiple teams and services. Their small acts of hospitality, whether it's a warm smile, a friendly conversation, or a helping hand, our welcome ministers help to create a church community where all can feel known and cared for. This spirit of welcome extends beyond Sundays to special services and gatherings throughout the year, including Christmas, Easter, and our regular Morning Teas, where many step forward to serve. As our congregation continues to grow, so too does the opportunity to welcome others in Jesus' name. We thank God for each volunteer and pray that more would join in this ministry, following Jesus who came not to be served, but to serve.

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**June Lee**

*Associate Director Ministry Support*



## Creative Ministry

The aim of St Andrew's Creative Ministry is to support our church family in worshipping God through reflective and congregational singing, while providing opportunities for those with musical and creative gifts to serve with humility and unity.

Over the past year, it has been a joy to see growing interest and participation across our services and special celebrations. We are thankful for the many members who have stepped forward to serve in music and media, using their God-given gifts to build up the church. It has been particularly encouraging to see prayers answered as individuals with a heart for creative service have found their place within the ministry. Across a range of musical worship formats, we continue to seek to ensure that our music faithfully reflects God's word and expresses the love of Christ.



that we are one body with many parts, each playing a unique role

One highlight this year has been the opportunity for people from different creative backgrounds to serve together during

Christmas Eve and Good Friday services. Bringing together mixed choirs and band ensembles has been a powerful picture of unity in diversity. Despite differing musical perspectives, it has been deeply encouraging to see team members demonstrate patience, generosity, and a shared commitment to serving God and his people.

We have been reminded of the truth in 1 Corinthians—that we are one body with many parts, each playing a unique role. This is especially evident within a creative ministry, where different gifts come together for a common purpose.

If you have musical or creative gifts and would like to serve, we warmly invite you to get involved. Whether on stage or behind the scenes, there is a place for you to contribute as we seek to lead God's people in worship together.

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**Arizton Pamplona**

*Director of Music*

## Putonghua Ministry

The Putonghua congregation has been part of St Andrew's for over twenty years. Our aim is to be a vibrant Mandarin-speaking community devoted to Jesus Christ—sharing his gospel, calling people to follow him, and seeking the flourishing of Hong Kong. This is the same vision as the wider church, expressed in Putonghua.

We give thanks for a year of significant growth. Sunday attendance has risen steadily from around 140 to an average of over 180, with Christmas services nearly at full capacity. Our Cantonese Outreach Ministry has expanded considerably, drawing between 240–400 learners each week and reaching over 500 at its peak in September—the highest we have seen. Alpha courses have continued with strong engagement, while multiple Partnership courses have helped many take meaningful steps into church life. Growth Groups have also flourished, with around sixty people gathering on Friday evenings. We have seen the launch of Youth Ministry, steady growth in PTH Kidzone, and the joy of celebrating baptisms. Alongside this, new leaders have been trained and our partnership with the wider HKSKH has deepened.

One particularly encouraging picture of God's work is a young man from Chongqing who, for several weeks, travelled sixteen hours round-trip by high-speed rail to at-

tend our services, Cantonese ministry, and Alpha course. His hunger for God's word and perseverance have deeply encouraged our congregation, reminding us that the Lord is drawing people to himself, even from great distances.



We give thanks for a year of significant growth

We warmly invite you to be part of what God is doing in the Putonghua community. If you have Putonghua-speaking friends, classmates, or colleagues, please consider inviting them to a Sunday service or Alpha course. If you are a Cantonese speaker with a heart to serve, we would love you to join our outreach ministry. Whether you are new or have been at St Andrew's for many years, there is a place for you to serve. Come and partner with us as we seek to know Jesus more deeply and make him known together.

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**Ryan Muir**

*Assistant Minister (Putonghua)*

## Shatin Church

There is a striking scene in the latest Knives Out film, Wake Up Dead Man, that resonated deeply with me. A priest, accused of murder and wrestling with the crushing weight of his calling, receives a call from someone whose parent is dying. Despite his own crisis, he drops everything to counsel and pray for her. It is a powerful reminder of what ministry truly is: the privilege of walking with people in their most vulnerable, broken moments.

By the data, 2025 at Shatin Church appeared to be a “normal” year—perhaps even a quiet one. Compared to twenty-four baptisms in 2024, we saw only seven this past year. While our average attendance grew slightly from 183 to 190, the spreadsheets suggested a plateau.



### We serve a God who meets and cares for us individually

But beneath the surface, the personal ministry was intense. This year, our leaders met with many more couples in marital crisis. We launched a men's accountability group to battle the quiet grip of addiction. We have struggled

with different mental disorders too. It was a year that forced me to ask: “Were these problems always here at Shatin Church, or did I just not see them?”

It is a cliché to say that ministry isn't about numbers, but it is a necessary truth. We serve a God who meets and cares for us individually. While numbers indicated only small changes and the year was filled with challenges, the result was a year that has made us more caring, patient, and loving. In other words, God was at work here.

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**Revd. Heewoo Han**

*Minister-in-Charge, Shatin Anglican Church*

## Resurrection Church

Resurrection Church was planted by St Andrew's in 1988 to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to the English-speaking communities of Sai Kung District. By God's grace, year after year and up to the present day, the gospel continues to bear fruit as we see people living in our area come to faith and grow as disciples.



### this year has reminded us of our weakness and need

There are many reasons to give thanks this year. We have seen Sunday attendance increase for the third consecutive year, with many new joiners, particularly young adults in their 20s and 30s, as well as several newborns, bringing something of a baby boom to our congregation. We rejoice that one person came to faith through the 3-2-1 Course, and that two new Growth Groups have been established. We are also thankful to have moved into a new venue within Hong Kong Academy, now meeting in the Performing Arts Theatre, and to have expanded from one to two Sunday School classes. It has been especially encouraging to hear several people express a renewed joy in coming to church.

At the same time, this year has reminded us of our weakness and need. Some in our congregation have faced serious illness and hospitalisation. Others have struggled spiritually, weighed down by ongoing sin or distracted from deep fellowship with God and one another. These realities are sobering, but they are not without hope.

Indeed, they point us back to the heart of the gospel. The cross teaches us that God does not wait for us to be strong before he works - he meets us precisely in our weakness. The place of our greatest need becomes the place of his greatest work. So we do not pretend to have it all together. We desperately need Jesus. If you need him too - come. Pray for us, join us on a Sunday, and see what God is doing in Sai Kung.

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**Revd. Lucas Durant**

*Minister-in-Charge, Resurrection Church*

# SUNDAYS

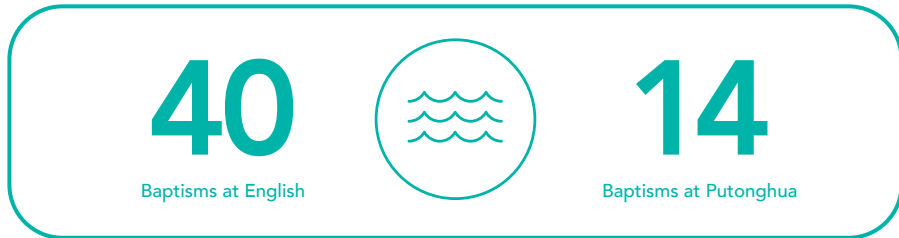
weekly average attendance

**1620**

English Congregations

**168**

Putonghua Congregation



We are a community devoted to Jesus Christ, who share his gospel, calling on people to follow him, and seek the flourishing of Hong Kong.



St Andrew's  
KOWLOON