

with Brian Doerksen. Dec. 2 at 7:30pm. See poster on EC bulletin board.

12. Hope & Love 4 U volunteer opportunity
We have been invited again this year to participate in the Hope & Love 4 U event on **Christmas Day** by helping to give out bagged lunches to Downtown Eastside residents. Location: 384 Main St. (Corner of Main/Hastings). Time: One hour slots between 10:30am-2:30pm. They are looking for 16 people to help out. Register for this volunteer opportunity in the church basement after service starting today for the next 3 Sundays.

13. Jacob's Well Christmas dinner - In partnering with Jacob's Well, we are looking to prepare a dinner at Jacob's Well on Thursday **Dec. 21**. Time: ~1pm-7pm. Volunteer opportunities include shopping for the menu, cooking and serving the meal, and clean up. Please speak with Winnie Lai-Fong or email her (pcs@vcbc.bc.ca) if you would like to participate.

14. Attention All Ministry Team Leaders - (1) Please submit your ministry's **Annual Report** to the Church Office no later than **Dec. 17**. **(2)** Cut-off date for all 2017 expense claims is **Jan. 5, 2018**. Thank you.

PRAYER ITEMS

"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift." -- 2 Corinthians 9:15

Praise God for:

- The reasons for the season of our celebration of Christ's birth.
- Homebuilders and small group leaders who encourage and strengthen group members in their walk with Our Gracious Lord.
- The congregation members of VCBC who serve in unity and are growing together in their love of Christ.

Pray for:

- The preparation of the Children's Christmas Program and EC Christmas Celebration on Dec. 8 and Dec. 16.

- Physical comfort for Nathan Mah.
- More co-ordinators willing to serve in JC Kidz.
- God's provision of a Chinese Congregation Pastor.
- Nicole Jung's involvement at Jacob's Well part time, leading the volunteers in games and other activities at the center on Monday.
- Pastor Gilbert & Lydia as they are considering leading a team to Turkey to work with refugees in 2018.

SUNDAY LIFE GROUPS @ 11:30 AM

YOUTH

Grades 7 & 8 (Cindy & Bob)
VCBC Room B14

Grades 9 & 10 (Brian & Larry)
VCBC Room E2

Grades 11 & 12 (Raphael & Henry)
VCBC Room W2

ADULT

Youth Leaders Training (Pastor Brian)
7437 Culloden Basement

Kneeling with Giants (Wi-Guan)
7437 Culloden Living Room

Stories of Jesus & Application In John (Jack) 7437 Culloden Dining Room

FIRST ADVENT SUNDAY SERVICE VCBC 11.26.2017

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a faith community that lives out God's will in all areas of life, passionately committed to forming genuine disciples of Jesus Christ in love and unity.



Source: istock.com

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. —Genesis 1:1-3

Today, as the **first Sunday of Advent**, we remember God's creation of light in a world originally filled with darkness and chaos. Then later, through the incarnation of Jesus Christ, God introduced His light into our lives and brightened the darkest corners of our lives.

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAISE & WORSHIP
Light of the World
The Saving One

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE
Genesis 1:1-3, Henry & Carmen Cheung

SHARING OF COMMUNITY LIFE

TITHES & OFFERING
Nothing But the Blood
This is Amazing Grace

MESSAGE
Becoming the Children of Light
John 9:1-5, Pastor Sam Wong

RESPONSE
Here I Am To Worship

CLOSING PRAYER & DOXOLOGY

For parents with infants and toddlers, you are welcome to make use of the glassroom or drop your children off at the nursery.

Vancouver Chinese Baptist Church 7474 Culloden St, Vancouver, BC V5X 4K2
604.325.6314 ext. 21 english@vcbc.bc.ca www.vcbc.bc.ca/English

SERMON OUTLINE & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Becoming the Children of Light | John 9:1-5; 11:8-10; 12:35-36 | Pastor Sam Wong

Sermon Outline

Introduction

- Christmas & Winter Solstice
- A. Light lets us
1. So that we can know God.
 2. So that we can know ourselves.
 3. So that we can know how to live in this world.
- B. Light demands us
1. To work (John 9:4)
 - "while" (John 9:5; 12:35-36)
 - "must" (from "I" to "we")
- C. Light allows us to walk (John 11:8-10)
1. Following a lamp to my feet (Psalm 119:105)
- D. Light allows us to become light (John 12:35-36)
1. Children of light instead of instrument of light
 2. The difference between "beget" and "create"

Conclusion

- The Son Invictus vs. the Sun Invictus

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever had "missed opportunity" in your witnessing to Jesus? What are the factors that you must overcome in order to become more alert to such opportunities?
2. What are some of the things you can/will do in this Christmas season to bring light to the world?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Offering & Expenditure Report for October 2017** - Details are now posted on the bulletin board in the foyer.
2. **Dorothy Wong's funeral** will be on Tuesday Dec. 5, 1pm at Forest Lawn.
3. **Staff News** - Pastor Sam will be on his annual leave from Nov. 28 to Dec. 12.
4. **Members' Quarterly Meeting** - Will be held **today**, 1:00 pm in the sanctuary. Please see insert or bulletin board for Motions and last MQM's Resolutions. Lunch buns will be available for sale in the basement before the meeting. **Registered VCBC Members** please sign in and obtain a Ballot at the registration tables in the foyer before the meeting. **Note:** (1) Non-members do not have voting rights; (2) Obtaining a Ballot and/or Voting on behalf of another person is not permitted; (3) All Ballots are the property of VCBC, all unused Ballots must be returned to the registration table before you leave; (4) Minutes of the Sept. 24 MQM is now posted in the foyer and copies are available at the Church Office.
5. **Pursue, Saturday Dec. 2 at 7pm** - we will gather for Pursue - An evening of intimate worship, prayer and sharing that provides an encouraging atmosphere for newcomers and long-time members alike.
6. **Christmas Celebration**. Saturday Dec. 16, 5:30pm at VCBC. Everyone is invited to join us for this memorable & enjoyable evening for the whole family. We will have dinner, then a special service, followed by dessert! Tickets will be \$5 each & will go on sale next week.
7. **Longest Night Service**. Friday Dec. 22, 7:30pm. Christmas is not always a happy time for people. A Longest Night service is a way to acknowledge, appreciate and affirm the sadness or loss some may feel, during a season in which the emphasis is on celebration, joy and gathering with family and friends. Join us as we reflect and seek comfort and solace on this dark night.
8. **Mark your calendar** for Wise Men Still Seek Him, a special children's program. Friday, Dec. 8 from 7:30-9:30pm.
9. **Our Daily Bread** (Dec - Feb). Please pick up a copy of Our Daily Bread devotional in the foyer.
10. **2018 Flower Offering** - The Flower Chart is now posted in the foyer. Please put your name beside the date of choice, & make an offering of \$40 in an offering envelope with your name, offering number & the date on it. Thanks!
11. **Missions Fest Vancouver Fundraiser**

(See back for more announcements.)

HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

SUNDAY

- 9:40AM **Worship Service**
9:40AM **Children's Sunday School**
(Preschool—Grade 6)
11:00AM **JC Kidz**
(Preschool—Grade 6)
11:30AM **Sunday LIFE Groups**

WEDNESDAY

- 12:00PM **Dayspring Ladies Bible Study**
(1st, 3rd Wed) at Boardroom
Next meeting: Dec. 6
Contact: Cindy (cindyso@vcbc.bc.ca)
7:30PM **Church-wide Prayer Meeting**
at Basement. All are welcome.
(Primarily Cantonese but we will translate as needed!)

FRIDAY

- 7:30PM **Pioneer Clubs** (Ages 4-11)
Contact: Queenie Y.
(queenie_k_yip@yahoo.ca)
7:30PM **EDGe Youth Fellowships** (Gr. 6-12)
Contact: Brian (vcbcedge@gmail.com)
7:30PM **Family Nest** at VCBC Room E3
(Parents/Grandparents Group)
Topic: Understanding Depression and Anxiety in Teens
Contact: Lydia (778-789-3572)
7:45PM **Prayer Group** (1st Fri) at Room W2
Contact: Winnie (pcs@vcbc.bc.ca)

SATURDAY

- 7:00PM **Pursue**
at VCBC Sanctuary
(Worship, Prayer & Sharing night)
7:30PM **Missions Fest Vancouver**
Fundraiser with Brian Doerksen at Strathcona Church

NEXT SUNDAY

- 9:40AM **Worship Service**
(Speaker: Pastor Brian Lee)
9:40AM **Children's Sunday School**
(Preschool—Grade 6)
11:00AM **JC Kidz**
(Preschool—Grade 6)
11:30AM **Sunday LIFE Groups**